

TUESDAY 10 OCTOBER 1995

IN SECTION ONE

THIS MAN WILL THE Does Colin Powellas President? Badly.

IN SECTION TWO

WW Macaulay Culkin's only starring role is in his parent's custody battle

# 20,000 jobs to go in giant bank merger

#### Directors in £10m share-out

JOHN WILLCOCK JOHN EISENHAMMER and NICK CICUTTI

Ambitious plans by Lloyds TSB management stressed that Bank to take over its high street most joh cuts would be by natrival, the TSB, are likely to mean up to 20,000 job losses, 500 branch closures and share option gains totalling £10m for a handful of directors, it emerged vesterday.

The proposed takeover is the latest and higgest in a series of consolidating mergers in the financial services sector as banks and building societies seek to cut costs and improve their competitive position.

News of the merger plan, which is at a very advanced stage, was described as "appalling" by Leif Mills, general secretary of the Banking and In-Finance Union (BIFU). "This would mean savage cutbacks in the branch network and less consumer choice," said Mr Mills.

City insiders warned of job cuts of 20,000 over several years, out of a combined workforee of 90,000. The merger calculations, worked out by Lloyds' advisers, Baxing Brothers, are said to be based on an ambitious savings target of £2bn, which would mean taking out some £400m annually from the com-bined operations. To be known as Lloyds TSB Group plc, the combined bank would have more than 3,000 branches and a market value of £15hn.

HSBC, which owns Midland,

but many of its operations are

ural wastage and spread over a number of years. British high street hanks have already cut over 60,000 jobs in the last five years, while Lloyds' chief executive, Sir Brian Pitman, himself said earlier this year that another 75,000 would have to go throughout the industry.

Lloyds' branch staff currently total 43,500 at 1,800 outlets, mostly in the south of England, while the TSB has 24,000 workers at 1,200 branches, mainly in the north and Scotland. However, BIFU warns there is significant overlap in the Midlands and Wales.

Unions and consumer groups want the deal investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC). BIFU's Mr Mills wrote to Ian Lang, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry yesterday calling for a referral to the MMC, saying stuff and customer chestered: An MMC proba-

could blow the deal off course. Lloyds' previous attempt at a dash for growth, when it bid for Midland Bank in 1992, was abandoned when anMMC probe appeared likely. shead Lloyds has shed 15,000 poor £5bn.

ple since 1991, while TSB has cut 8,000 in the same period.
TSB is closing 200 branches this year and plans to do the same

City analysts said yesterday that the main targets for cuts Sources close to Lloyds and would be the Lloyds adminis-trative centre in Bristol and its TSB equivalent in Birmingham. Other overlaps occur be tween the Lloyds Abbey Life insurance operation in Bournemouth, Dorset, and TSB insurance in Andover, There will also be overlaps

hetween Cheltenham Gloucester, 'Lloyds' recently acquired mortgage arm, and TSB's Mortgage Express. Kate Scribbins, head of mon-

ey policy at the Consumers Association, said both Lloyds and TSB lagged behind other banks and building societies in a recent survey on service.

"[The merger] is good news if any savings... are used to im-prove standards of service and quality of products," Ms Scrib-

The new Lloyds TSB have almost a tenth of the UK mortgage market and nearly a fifth of small business lending. Under the deal, Lloyds will end up owning 70 per cent of the bank while TSB shareholders will get a "special dividend" of 68p per share; totalling film, and shares in the new bank. If the deal goes shead it values TSB at over

The new chairman of the group will be Sir Robin Ibbs, chairman of Lloyds, while Sir Brian Pitman remains as chief executive. But Peter Ellwood, chief executive of the TSB. who will take over responsibility for integrating the key retail operations of the two banks, appears to be well positioned as chief-executive designate of the new banking giant when Sir Brian retires.

TSB's shares rose 79p to 353p and Lloyds by 21p to

726p. High Street Battle, page 20



# Sarajevo waits for power and peace

EMMA DALY Sarajevo,

Bosnia's latest cease-fire was delayed last night after a tense day of shelling. Nato air strikes and failure to restore utilities to Sarajevo. "It will not happen because the conditions have not been met yet," said Hasan Muratovic, the Bosnian government's minister in charge of relations with the UN.

The ceasefire had been scheduled to take effect at one minute after midnight this morning. Mr Muratovic, appearing on Bosnian television, said the government and the Bosnian Serbs did as much as they could to restore electrici-

But the rest of the Prime

job done. He said that the truce strategic road intersection some will take effect as soon as that 60 miles southeast of Bihac work is done. Restoration of and 15 miles south of the Serb's utilities to Sarajevo was a key condition of a ceasefire accord brokered last week by the United States.

Showing little sign that they would cease hostilities, Bosnian government and Serb troops fought pitched battles around several key towns in northwest Bosnia. "The whole area is very active ... lots of roads have been closed. We assume it's to ferry down the wounded," a Western military monitor said.

Monitors in Bihac in the northwest said battles were rag-ing around Mrkonjic Grad, Kljuc and Bosanska Krupa, as the midnight deadline loomed. northern stronghold of Banja

It has so far escaped being overrun by Muslim and Croat forces who captured 1,500 sq miles in the region in a rapid offensive last month.

The capture of Mrkonjic Grad would give the government army control of the Sarajevo-Bihac road, a vital all-weather route linking mainly-Muslim areas in central and western Bosnia which have been completely separated in

the three and a half year war. Earlier yesterday, Nato planes attacked Serb targets in northeastern Bosnia after Serb shelling of government territory killed a Norwegian peace-keeper and claimed dozens of Hungary, because they are civilian casualties. A Nato spokesman said that two Alliance aircraft dropped laserguided bombs on Serb command-and-control posts

near Tuzla. But despite the sharp in-crease in shelling and fighting, the utilities problem appeared to be the main reason for delaying this ceasefire. Officials from the gas company flew to Moscow yesterday for talks on the issue; the Russians have re-

owed more than \$100m (£63m) in unpaid bills for gas used in Sarajevo and diverted by the Serbs away from the city. Last night engineers from the Overseas Development Administration sat disconsolate by the phone awaiting the green light from Moscow. Once it comes, gas could reach the city within about 12 bours. Water will flow when the electrical supply is up

and running.
Tide of war, page 13

#### Lloyds/TSB 3,000 90,000 3.9 28 2,333 1.592 63,000 ... 25 2,000 65,000 1.859 4.1 : + 19 14 1,736 49,000 0.905 15.2 NA 675 20,000 0.932Abbey National

How the banks will balance up

#### reet Battle, page 20 ty and natural gas service to Comment, page 21 Sarajevo, but could not get the . Mrkonjic Grad lies on a Major warns of 'ruthless' road to tax cuts

DONALD MACINTYRE Political Editor

John Major last night warned a party still reeling from the defection of Alan Howarth, MP for Stratford on Avon, to Labour that the Government would have to make "ruthless" decisions about public spending

to ensure tax cuts. In an uncompromising dismissal of a central element in Mr Howarth's farewell attack on the Conservative Party, the Prime Minister recommitted timself to reducing taxes and identified the welfare state as a prime target for cuts to pay for

As Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, led a concert-

ed exercise to limit the damage of Mr Howarth's departure by claiming that it was "yesterday's news", Mr Major told the Tory agents' dinner that few things angered people more than "others living off the welfare state - off taxpayers' money - when they could look after them-

Mr Howarth, who said in one of a series of broadcast interviews that the Prime Minister had told him what a "nuisance" his defection had been in their brief telephone call on Sunday night, had condemned in his resignation letter to the Stratford on Avon constituency party cuts in benefit for the unemployed, sick and disabled - and had complained of the Conservative "clamour for tax cuts

for the well-off". In one nod to drive down public spending the Tory left-wing agenda prodecision to become a Labour MP, Mr Major promised that health and education, along and order, would be self-called the "clear cut choice" moted by Mr Howarth until his protected from what he implied

between a Labour Party still would be a concerted effort to "hoping that throwing money at

Lord Home dies at 92 His keen intellect and his deep . patrotism all combined in a lifetime of public service. He was: always conscious of the obligations his position placed upon him, which showed through in a genuine concern for the welfare of the whole nation." Tributes; page 2 problems will solve them" and the Tories "trusting the people, giving them more power, more choice and more opportuni-

Mr Major had intended to go into greater detail in his speech on policy, but deferred specific announcements until he makes his leader's speech to the conference on Priday on the grounds that they would have been inappropriate while the party was mourning the death of Lord Home, a former Prime Minister. The party conference will begin today with one minute's silence in Lord

Home's memory. Mr Major's tough message on spending will be underlined today when William Waldegrave, a born-again economic dry in his

Treasury, will say that the lower spending as proportion of national income can be driven below 40 per cent the better.

The start to the conference was made even shakier by the announcement yesterday that Tate & Lyle was reducing its contribution to the Tories by £10,000 and giving £7,500 to Labour for the first time.

Sir Edward Heath, another former Prime Minister, last night declared regret that there were sections of the party which had an "absolute mania" about tax cuts. While he sympathised with Mr Howarth's arguments he still believed that he had been wrong to defect to Labour

Conservatives in Blackpool, pages 4 and 5

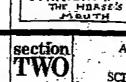
#### COMMENT

News Analysis: Nobel prizes - what's the point? Page 17 Andrew Marr: Why John Major should take Alan

John Lichfield interviews Colin Powell - the man tipped

Britain at admitting black people into positions of authority Weather: Scotland will start rainy with strong winds but will

become brighter later. England and Wales will be fine and sunny though cooler than of late. Section Two, page 21 Section Two, page 21



ARTS 6-10 CHESS 22 CROSSWORD 22 FASHION 12,13 LIFE 45 LISTINGS 2021 MEDIA 16-18 REVIEWS 10



Obituary, page 16

Howarth seriously

to be America's next president Page 19

Another View: The Saudi Arabian ambassador says why his country will continue with executions Page 18 Vicky Ward: A date for Colonel Gaddafi Page 17 Leading Article: "Why is the US so much better than

and political power?"

A member of the Association of British insurers and of the Hearmage Conjugations Burges



#### Mrs West's murder fears Rosemary West warned her parents that her husband, Frederick, could be a murderer almost 25

years ago, her mother said yesterday. Winchester Crown Court heard that Mrs West said: "You don't know him, you don't know him. There is nothing he would not Page 2

#### Strike paralyses France in the most serious challenge yet

IN BRIEF

to the government of Alain Juppé, much of France will be paralysed today by a 24-hour strike called by seven unions representing five million public sector workers in protest against government plans to freeze their Page 12 Justice is done, Saudi-style

She was ordered to kneel before a.

crowd of Saudis where an execution-

er with a sword tore off her scarf. He

then cut off her head." Robert Fisk on

"justice" meted out to Filipina house-

LAW REPORT 16 LEADING ARTICLES 18 LETTERS 18 NEWS 2-15

OBITUARIES 10,16 SHARES 23 SPORT 25-28 UNIT TRUSTS 24

maids in Saudi Arabia.

Page 14

#### have let phone hackers make hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of free calls.

BT security alert

British Telecom has sold

thousands of telephone

systems to businesses with-

out alerting them to

serious security flaws that

The annual inflation rate for fuels and materials purchased by industry, rose from 9.2 to 9.5 per cent last month, the first rise since April. Page 21 BUSINESS 20-24 COMMENT 18,19 CROSSWORD 28 GAZETTE 16

SCIENCE 14,15 TELEVISION & RADIO 23,24 WEATHER 21

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# Wife feared that West 'could murder'

WILL BENNETT

Rosemary West warned her parents almost 25 years ago that her husband, Frederick, was capable of murder, Winchester Crown Court was told yesterday.

A dramatic account of a doorstep confrontation in 1971 was given by Daisy Letts, Mrs West's mother, on the second day of evidence in the trial.

She told the court that Mrs West, now 41, who denies 10 charges of murder, returned home briefly, apparently after she and Mr West had had a row.

Mr West then went to the Letts' house in Bishop's Cleeve, near Cheitenham, Gloucestershire, and, as the family stood at the door he said: "Come along Rose, come on home." Mrs Letts told the court: "She turned to her father. She just said 'You don't know him, you don't know him. There is nothing he would not do -

even murder.' We just thought it was the words of a highlystrung girl. We did not take it seriously." However, despite the outburst, Mrs West returned to her husband.

Mr West, who was accused of 12 murders, including the 10 with which his widow is charged, was found dead in his prison cell in Birmingham on New Year's

Mrs West is charged with the murders of 10 girls and young women whose remains were found at the Wests' home in 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester, and at a flat in the city where they lived previously.

The prosecution alleges that

seven of the victims were bound and gagged and kept alive for days while they were sexually abused. They were found dismembered and decapitated five of them buried in the cellar at Cromwell Street.



Rosemary West (left) and her stepdaughter, Charmaine. A neighbour said the two had a difficult relationship

murdering her eldest daughter, Heather West, as well as Charmaine West, the daughter of her busband's first wife, and Shirley Robinson, a lodger who was pregnant by Mr West.

Yesterday, frail and greyhaired, Mrs Letts, 76, did not glance at her daughter once as she gave evidence. Mrs West

stared intently at her mother but showed no emotion. Mrs Letts said her daughter met Mr West when she was 15 and working in a baker's shop. Her parents disliked him and at one stage had her put into care in an unsuccessful attempt to break up the relationship She said: "We just felt that he was not telling the truth. We did not take to him. He said that he had a hotel in Scotland and a caravan site in Scotland." Shirley Giles, a former neigh-

bour of the Wests at their previous home - 25 Midland Road, Gloucester - told the court that Rosemary West had a difficult relationship with Charmaine West, the daughter of Mr West's first wife, Rena.

Mrs Giles' daughter, Tracey, became friendly with Charmaine when the West family moved to Midland Road in 1970. One morning she sent the child down to borrow a pint of milk. Tracey hurst in on a disturbing scene in the West's flat.

Her daughter, now Tracey Hammonds, told the court yesterday that Charmaine was standing on a chair with her hands tied behind her back with a leather belt and that Mrs West was holding a large wood-

parently on the point of beat- of identification more difficult ing the seven-year-old girl.

Mrs Hammonds said that

after they moved, they went back to Midland Road to see Charmaine and spoke to Mrs West. "I said 'Where is Char-maine?' and the lady there said 'She has gone to her mother's and bloody good riddance.' " Earlier, Brian Leveson QC

finished opening the case for the prosecution. He said that in every single set of remains found, there were bones missing, including many from the hands and feet and in seven cases, one or both kneecaps. The mutilation had been deliberate. he told the court.

We know that the bodies were dismembered so that a smaller hole was all that was needed to make it easier to hide them in the ground. Each has already been mutilated.

"Fingers could well have en spoon with which she was ap- been removed to render the task

That again is mutilation. Why is one or both kneecaps missing from seven of the girls? The

only answer we submit again is mutilation." He said that the victims had clearly been sexually abused and that the masks and other restraining devices found with their remains "speak from the grave as to what had happened

He told the jury of eight men and four women that Mrs West must have been involved in the murders with her husband and concluded: "Between 1971 and 1987, 10 dead bodies. All at Mrs West's home, one at Midland Road and nine at Cromwell Street.

"The Crown submits that on the evidence you can and will be sure that Rosemary Pauline West is guilty of murder in re-lation to each girl."

The case continues today.

# He represented all that was best in his generation . . . everyone trusted him



Lord Home of the Hirsel - better known as Sir Alec Douglas-Home - the only Prime Minister this century to be drawn from the House of Lords, died yesterday at his estate in the Borders aged 92.

Although widely credited as one of the best post-war Foreign Secretaries, Lord Home's yearlong premiership, which began in October1963, was characterised by its brevity.

The real significance of his term as prime minister was the watershed it provided between the patrician rule of the old-style grouse-moor Tories and the emergence of their modern

A minute's silence will be observed today at the opening of the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool, Yesterday, cross-party tributes piled up for a man whose long career included a spell as parliamentary private secretary to Neville Chamberlain when he made his notorious 1938 "peace in our time" forecast, and who was the last Tory leader to emerge from the party's secret "magic circle"

selection process. The appointment of an "aristocrat" was criticised by Labour and the Liberals. But contrary to forecasts, the gaunt, genteel, old-fashioned Home - who subsequently admitted using matchsticks to work out economic policy - almost held on to power in the 1964 election despite the popular appeal of Labour leader Harold Wilson and Tory disarray in the wake of the Profumo scandal, Labour sneaked in with an overall ma-

Lord Hailsham, one of the then Tory leadership con-tenders, confirmed that Lord Home was "reluctant" to be Prime Minister after the resignation of Harold Macmillan. John Major said Home was "understated and often underestimated", adding: "He was

always conscious of the obligations his position placed upon him, which showed through in a genuine concern for the welfare of the whole nation."

Lord Home's health deteriorated markedly in 1990, after the death of Elizabeth, his wife of 52 years.

The Prime Minister's tribute was echoed by Sir David Steel, the former Liberal leader, "Alec Douglas-Home was the last of the gentlemen politicians who had no other motivation than public service," said Sir David.

Lord Home's magnanimity and absence of cut-throat amhition - showed in his gracious acceptance of the post of Foreign Secretary under Edward Heath, his successor when the Tories regained power in the early 1970s.

Sir Edward said yesterday that Lord Home had never had enough credit for almost winning the 1964 election but that he would be better remembered for his work in foreign affairs. "He made his mark as Secretary of State for the Commonwealth and then as Foreign Secretary and he was completely trusted by everyone with whom he was dealing, and that

is of the greatest importance." Lord Callaghan, the former Labour premier, said Lord Home was "a very modest man. with little patience for the sort of hype and soundbite style of



Lord Home: a politician noted for his magnanimity and lack of cut-throat ambition

today's politics". Labour leader Tony Blair said: "The whole country will be saddened at the loss of a man who served Britain for so long. He loved his country and was a man of great

integrity and great compas-

Baroness Thatcher, who once described the elder statesman as the "wisest man I have ever met", said: "Integrity shone

out of Alec Douglas-Home. Everyone trusted and admired him... He represented all that was best in his generation." Lord Home gave up six peerages to become prime minister

but finally returned to the Lords after retirement at 71 with a life peerage. Even after his 80th birthday he spoke and voted. He will also be remembered for his wit. In the early 1940s he

Photograph: Stan Hunter

lay in plastereast for two years with tuberculosis of the spine. Afterwards, he joked: "The doctors have done the impossible put backbone into a politician. Obituaries, page 10

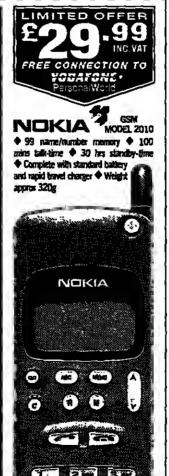
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#### Sinn Fein says it wants | Children's sex abuse talks without threats

DAVID MCKITTRICK Ireland Correspondent

Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams yesterday spoke out against the use of threats in the Irish peace process, professing his party's commitment to democracy, the accommodation of diversity, and national reconciliation.

Mr Adams's comments were part of a detailed laying-out of the republican position, and he was intent on answering the charge, made by the British Government and by Unionist sources, that allowing Sinn Fcin into talks before the IRA made a decommissioning gesture would be tantamount to negotiating with an IRA gun at their heads. He said: "The achievement of peace must involve a permanent end to all violence. Threats... are certainly no part of any talks process in which we

will engage."
His remarks were welcomed by nationalist sources, but the British Government remains insistent that inter-party talks can only begin when decom- Committed: Gerry Adams

missioning of some of the IRA's

weaponry actually takes place There is speculation that Mr Major's room for manoeuvre on the issue has been limited by the defection of Conservative MP Alan Howarth to Labour, which effectively cuts the Government's majority in the Commons from nine to seven.

The loss may make the prime minister more inclined to look to the nine Ulster Unionist MPs, with their new leader David Trimble, to help him out of any tight spots. Any weakening of the government stance on decommissioning would greatly displease Mr Trimble.



#### evidence challenged DANNY PENMAN

Six men convicted last year of ehild sex abuse in Wales are the victims of a serious miscarriage of justice, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

The six were found guilty in June 1994, for their part in an organised sex abuse ring in Pembroke, west Wales. After a nine-month trial they

were sentenced to a combined total of 53 years in prison and for the first time in post-war Britain, conspiracy charges arising out of a child sex abuse ring were sustained in court. The key evidence in the case

came from a group of children. ranging from six to fifteenyears-old, who said they were victims of the ring. The lawyers acting for the six alleged that the convictions are "unsafe and unsatisfactory" because the evidence of the children cannot be relied upon.

They also claim that the chil-dren's video-taped evidence the jury in the original trial because it was tainted and consequently prejudiced a fair trial.

They claim that without the video evidence there is insufficient material to uphold the

The sex abuse ring came to light in May 1991, when an eight-year-old boy in Pembroke, who was undergoing counselling following the break-down of his parents' marriage, accused his father of abuse. He quickly accused his mother and

group of other adults. The inquiry soon encom-passed two other families who shared the same housing estate as the boy's father.

No compelling evidence was found to substantiate the boy's claims, so the charges against his father were dropped. Social workers continued to question the eight-year-old boy, as well as the children of the other two

Later, after a teenage girl complained her father had raped her, police believed they had uncovered a paedophile should not have been shown to network During their investigations 15 children from nine families were taken into care.

Baby's life support switched off

A two-week-old baby died yesterday when doctors switched off the ventilator that had been keeping her alive after she was injured in a car crash.

Shannon Wilson was injured on Friday in a car crash at Balmacara, Highlands, which killed her mother, Rachel, 23, Her father Sandy, 29, who was being treated for severe shock in bospital on Skye, where the family lived, was flown to Yorkhill Hospital in Glasgow to see Shannon and give his consent for her life-support system to be switched off.

#### Officer suspended

A senior Cambridgeshire police officer has been suspended on full pay after criminal allegations were made against him. The officer, believed to be of superintendent rank, was suspended on 28 September. An internal inquiry is being headed by Chief Superintendent Keith Hoddy.

#### Tengku Razaleigh

On 5 February 1994, the Inde-pendent published an article headed "Malaysians' corruption covered up" containing a num-ber of statements and insimuations about Tengku Razaleigh Ham-zah, the former Minister of Fi-nance of Malaysia. The article quoted a letter purportedly from George Tan, chairman of Carri-an, a Hong Kong company, in which he wrote to Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah saying he was making 25 million shares in Car-

rian available to him. Our report was based on information which at the time we had no reason to doubt. We now accept that Tengku Razaleigh does not know George Tan and had never been offered 25 million shares in Carrian. We are now satisfied that the allegations of corruption, in so far as they reflected upon Tengku Raza-leigh, are unfounded and that he is a highly respected senior politician in Malaysia.

If any reader may have drawn the impression from our article that it was intended to suggest that Tengku Razaleigh was connected, either directly or indirectly, with the death of Jalil Ibrahim, a bank auditor who had made inquiries into the ownership of the shares, this is very much regretted and was not

We apologise unreservedly to Tengku Razaleigh for any distress or embarrassment caused

by our article. The settlement of Tengku Razaleigh's action against the Independent was the subject of a statement in the High Court yesterday in which we agreed to pay him a substantial sum by way of compensation and his costs.

#### **Tunnel** smuggling

In the first case of its kind, a couple were fined £400 each after for smuggling a dog through the Channel tunnel. Graydon Denn, 29, and his wife, Tamar, 20, of Camden, north London, pleaded guilty at Horseferry Road magistrates' court to bringing the dog from Israel into Britain on

#### a Eurostar train.

Clowes parole fight Peter Clowes, 52, jailed for 10 years in February 1992 for stealing £16m from investors, won the first round in his attempt to get parole when the Court of Appeal overturned a High Court judge's refusal to let him challenge the Parole Board's decision not to recommend parole

#### when it becomes due next year. Eagle eyes

About 50,000 people in the UK took part in World Birdwatch 95 at the weekend, recording 200 'species, including golden eagles.

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BACK ISSUES

# ITV to explain plan to move 'News at Ten'

MATHEW HORSMAN

The 1TV companies have promised a formal letter of "explanation" to the Independent Television Commission in the row over the rescheduling of News at Ten next Monday.

Roger Loughton, chairman of ITV's Broadcast Board. promised to explain the circumstances of the controversial plan to delay the evening bulletin by 15 minutes to make way

hit series, Cracker, starring Rob-hie Coltrane. news in peak viewing (6pm-10.30pm). The Cracker episode

with a campaign to move News at Ten permanently." The ITC is believed unlike-

ly to grant its approval. "We don't say it can never be done," the ITC said. "But each circumstance must be viewed carefully." As a condition of their news until 10.30pm. But in that licences, ITV companies are re- instance, the ITC's prior apfor an extended episode of the quired to show 3) minutes of proval was sought and granted. side," the spokesman said.

ITV still hopes to make the change, saying yesterday the proposal had nothing to do run 75 minutes until 10.15pm.

In the past delays to news have been due to extended live sports transmissions, party political broadcasts or breaking current events. Last year, a two and a half hour documentary on Prince Charles delayed the

If ITV goes ahead without permission, the ITC "will consider what action it might take in respect of all the channel weekday regional licences," a spokesman warned.

said to be "livid" about the News at Ten. restructuring proposal, first revealed in newspaper reports over the weekend. "Having the [ITC] board members reading about this over their cornflakes is not a way to get them on your

Adding to ITV's discomfort, the television listings published yesterday already showed the scheduling change and another listings publication is ex-pected to come out today, and indicating the delayed start to

It was clear to the ITC that the ITV Network Centre had heen planning to make the change for some time, and that the failure to notify the commission was an issue it takes "very seriously".

# BT memo reveals its phones are not secure

CHARLES ARTHUR Technology Correspondent

British Telecom has sold thousands of business telephone systems which have serious security flaws that let phone hackers make bundreds of thousands of pounds worth of

free calls. The total cost to British businesses of such hacking, which is used to make calls across the world, is oow thought to run to

millions of pouods annually. One phone hacker has told the Independent that the Merid-

ian switchboard, sold by BT types of phone hacking have "alsince 1991 to more than 5,000 ready reached epidemic proswered calls to an external guesswork and determination to ily be broken into. As a result, businesses throughout the UK, is riddled with security loop-holes in its voicemail and call diversion facilities. "It's like a car manufacturer selling a model

switch for the ignition," he said. But BT has been aware since at least January of such dangers, according to an internal document issued to managers within BT and seen by the Independent. In it Geoff

portions in the USA".

He adds that they "have very serious implications for our customers" but adds "Do not discuss the various means by which has oo locks and just a which fraud can be made - this will only serve to alarm the customer further".

The Meridian switchhoard offers voicemail boxes, whichare computerised message systems that act like electronic answering machines, and "dial-through" facilities, which

ready reached epidemic pro- swered calls to an external

Both only work when a fourdigit code is entered. But until year, Meridian systems were sold with the code set to a default which could be guessed easily. Until six months ago, the models sold gave anyone who worked out the code unlimited access to outside

Phone backers call business es after work hours so that extensions will oot be answered. let the user of an extension set. They often call on freephone crack the codes of unused ex-

They then enter the four digit code to set the extension to redirect calls, often to friends in other countries or computer bulletin boards in the United

ends up paying for both the hacker's incoming and outgoing calls, which can last for hours. Phone hackers often contact each other on voicemail and

The company unwittingly

some switchboards are host to hackers operating in parallel to the legitimate business, leaving each other messages and dialling in and oot with

BT says that earlier this year it sent out warnings by registered post explaining the risks of telephone hacking to all the owners of such systems. "We are working extremely bard to eosure that all our customers who are vulnerable have taken action

However, the document issued by Mr Gutridge says, "It is essential that oo commitment is given to any customer with respect to cost reimbursement and no admission of BT liability is made until we bave established the full facts of individual cas-

One phone hacker told the Independent: "In many cases the owners of these systems have no idea that these flaws exist - otherwise they would do something

rector of the voicemail compa- to BT to explain to customers.

ny Octel, estimates that the level of fraud through phone hackated with the Internet and hacking has raised the level of awareness of people that systems can be hacked, so more people are trying it."

The Meridian system is made by Northern Telecom of Canada. Peter Fintel, the UK product manager, said: "We only out it."

know of four cases of hacking
Michael Persky, marketing diin the UK." He said it was up



Firewatch: Vast clouds of thick black smolin applied from ICI's: Wilton complex near Redcar, Cleveland, yesterday as a huge blaze gripped the chemical plant. It took 180 firefighters nearly 11 hours to quench the flames. Residents were warned to stay at home and close their windows because of the smole. The cause of the fire was not known

### Tobacco row hits cancer campaign

LIZ HUNT Health Editor

A row between a government minister and a senior member of the European Commission has overshadowed the launch of Europe against Cancer Week, a premier event in the European Union's health calendar.

Geoffrey Martin, head of the Commissioo's representatioo in the United Kingdom, accused Tom Sackville, a junior health minister, of ridiculing the Commission "for party political reasons" oo the eve of the

Conservative Party conference. Mr Martin and Mr Sackville shared a platform in Loodoo yesterday to publicise the results of a survey of 16,000 people which revealed that the Britisb are more ignorant about the causes of cancer and preventive measures than their neighbours in 15 European countries.

Defending the Government's health education strategy, including its Health of the Nation initiative, Mr Sackville said that Britain's attempts to dissuade people from smoking - a leading cause of cancer deaths - with heavy taxes and cootrols on advertising and promotion, were undermined by the millions of pounds in subsidy paid to European tobacco

tobacco in this country, some of dooe overnight said without those taxes are being spent in threatening thousands of jobs.

Europe to subsidise tobacco farmers. That is ironic and it is unsatisfactory, as 1 bope everyooe will agree."

Mr Sackville added that surplus European-produced tobacco was being "dumped oo the overseas market to clog up the arteries of people in the Third World".

However, after he had left the press conference early, Mr Martin seized the opportunity to rebuke the minister for his statement, "I'm not a politician, but there is a limit to which the European Commission can keep quiet when people are walking all over it for party political reasons..."

"Whereas in past years we were prepared to turn a blind eye when attempts were brazenly made to ridicule the European Commission, we now say that we will hit back."

Mr Martin said be was concerned about the impression Mr Sackville gave of distancing both himself and his governmeot from the EU and for suggesting that "recklessness was the order of the day oo the part of the Commission".

He said Mr Sackville was out of step with his own Government policies which backed the European Commissioo's attempts to dissuade southern "While we pile oo taxes oo ing tobacco. This could oot be

# Gay council worker wins compensation over sacking

cal authority because he was gay, celebrated last night after winning compensation from

David Morgan, 36, a former security supervisor at a block of council flats, said he was a victim of anti-homosexual discrimination when he worked for Labour-controlled Haringey

Mr Morgan, from Ilford, Essex, who has lost his bome and car in the course of his threeyear fight against the council, claimed he was wrongfully dis-missed from his £15,000-a-year job because colleagues told him they did not wish to work with

north Loodoo. He quickly clashed with another concierge, who became abusive when he

found out Mr Morgan was gay. Mr Morgan invoked the council's disciplinary procedure to have the man suspended, and the colleague was disciplined for gross misconduct. But days after this judgement was served,

Morgan himself was sacked. Haringey said he was incompetent. It was alleged be needed too much supervision, be failed to act on instructioo and he had developed poor working relationships with other members of staff. Because be had only worked

for the council for six mooths. 18 mooths short of the statutory minimum period required to claim unfair dismissal at an in-He started working for ry minimum period required to Haringey in January 1992 as senior concierge and security sudustrial tribunal, be was forced

keeps his bome address secret. argued that competence was not the issue and pointed to a string of irregularities in his case. Not least among these, he argues, were vague allegations that he bad been "inappropriately overt" about his sexuality. Yesterday, after accepting

the money, paid into Central Londoo County Court by the council, which still denies liability, He added: "I feel that I bave had a moral victory and I feel the council has admitted li-

taken three years but it was worth it because maybe it will stop other unscrupulous employers from discriminating against gay people. It is still oot

A security worker who claimed pervisor at a housing block on to take his case before a court. illegal to discriminate against he was sacked by a Loodon lo- a small estate in Wood Green, In his fight with the local aupeople on the grounds that thority, Mr Morgan, who oow

they are gay.
"I just bope that Haringey Council has an investigation into council about t £40,000 to fight this case against me. I won't see a penny of the £2,100 it paid into court because it will all be taken up with legal fees." He added that, as a Labour

Party member he would like to see an investigation at national level into discriminatioo against gays by Labour councils.
"It makes my blood boil when I see Tony Blair stand up at conference and say he says he won't tolerate discrimination. "Thope it encourages other won't tolerate discrimination. people to the same thing. It has I'd like to see him turn to the leader of Haringey Council, Toby Harris, and say "I want an

"I'm happy, but still unem-

# W DON'T HAR ASTELLE ... We HAVE an ATTITUDE. Lucille Lewin Founder of Whistles Caramember since 1988 shoulder pad

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## Sting 'said yes to tax cash loan'

The rock superstar Sting's for-mer accountant insisted yesterday that he had never invested any of the wealthy performer's millioos for his "own interests".

Keith Moore, 51, is accused of stealing from the former lead singer of the Police. The Crown has alleged that the cash was ploughed into a series of largely unsuccessful ventures including an international chain of Indian restaurants, and the conversion of Russian military -aircraft into passenger carrying super Jumbos".

Questioned by his counsel. Nicholas Purnell QC, Mr Moore told the jury at Southwark Crown Court, London, that it was his philosophy to encourage artists in a "hands-on" approach to business, but Sting had he said a "short attention sponsibility fell upon me for everything. Anonymity was of concern to Sting. He did not like the idea of pressure by people on him personally."

- Moore said the performer did not like publicity attached to his



Caption - locked to grid

be associated with success. They don't want to be associated with the somewhat rocky path up to the creation of success."

He told the jury that it was a relief to share the burden of the failed business ventures in a confrontation in 1992 with Sting's managers and solicitor.

"I had been bearing the burden, of the continuing problems of recovery of the money. "Artists of his stature want to It was some relief to share my former that he believed Sting



burden with other people. It was my responsibility because I Moore was also questioned

about his use of some of the star's money to pay a tax de-mand for £691,000, and thus avoid bankruptcy in the process. He explained that the matter first arose during a discussion at Sting's country mansion in Wiltshire. He had told the per-

could recoup some \$10m from his record company, A&M Records, as a result of underpayment of royalties in previous

years.
"His response was that if that is right there was a big fee for your part," said Mr Moore. "I took that opportunity... to tell him that I was in extreme difficulties with the Inland Revemie and asked for an advance against the fee

He quoted Sting as saying that that was probably "OK" and that Mr Moore should write to him.

The accountant said he faxed letter to Sting's Californian home in Malibu, and shortly afterwards had faxed back to him a signed letter of anthority allowing the sum to be drawn on one of the singer's accounts with bankers Coutts and Co. Sting has told the court he be-

related to his own affairs. Mr Moore, of Fulham, southwest London, denies 15 sample charges of theft from Sting between August 1988 and July

lieved the letter of authority was

The trial was adjourned un-

#### TORIES IN BLACKPOOL

# The faithful look for a fight over 'traitor'

Chief Political Correspondent

The Tory faithful arrived in Blackpool last night furning with the defection of Alan Howarth to the Labour Party on the eve of the party conference. Branding him a traitor, activists were angry about the tim-ing of his defection to try to

overshadow the party conference. Many grassroots sup-porters wanted John Major to lead a fighthack with a positive agenda to show the Government has not run out of steam. In spite of the blow to Tory morale, and the Tories' low

standing in the opinion polls, a stiff upper lip was evident at the Imperial, the conference hotel where the Cabinet are staying. Activists made it clear to Mr Major at the agents' dinner last night that the Government needs to show a positive agen-

da to overcome the sethack of Mr Howarth's "betraval". "He has made party members rally round the flag of the par-ty and it is has made them more determined," said Sylvia Mason,

Two Glasgow Tories said Mr MPs is all we need to force a Howarth's switch was as bad as the last-minute conversion to Rangers by the Celtie football hero, Mo Johnston. "He was a traitor and will be despised for the rest of his life," said Malcolm Mulheron, from Eastwood. "It's the same with Alan Howarth." Tories were "like lepers" in Glasgow, he added, but he would never switch to

Sipping coffee, the other representatives were keen to dis-miss the Howarth defection as a "two-day wonder". But down the promenade, Frank Dobson, a member of Tony Blair's Shadow Cahinet, was offering memhership forms to any Tories who wished to switch allegiance. "We will welcome aboard all defectors. Another two or three crises before at Blackpool, including the Sara Keays revelations which brought down Cecil Parkinson. "I am looking for a hookie to put £5 on the Conservatives to win the next election. I am convinced we will

The mood in the coffee room

at the Imperial was stoical.

They have witnessed conference

general election," he said.

Eastleigh. "What we need to show is strength of purpose." Few wanted to see more of the Thatcherite policies which forced Mr Howarth to desert the Tory party. They had been told to expect announcements, but they wanted fresh ideas to improve the standard of living,

including action on crime, not an attack on the welfare state Today's business Morning sension: Debbes on application flee speaker. Douglab Hoggl, ordinated Douglab Hoggl, ordinated Douglab Hoggl, ordinated Douglab Hoggl, ordinated by the party challeng Bran, Malikharana.

Afternoon sension: Debags or press affairs and lairone (Malicom Hillands, personal Mediana Hogglab, personal rendered berings, including the Lating Sugarial Budgetier).

to pay for tax cuts. Roseanne Dane, from Esher and Walton. said Tony Blair was a "hard act to follow. We need enthusiasn from this conference. I am sick of being battered for things that are not our fault".

Her husband, Michael, said: The test will be in positive policies put forward because the one thing there was last week at the Labour Party conference was a complete absence of win," said Diana Challen, of commitments, apart from the song and dance about the BT deal. We can go onto the attack when Labour begin to tell us what their policies are."

Sir Norman Fowler, the former Conservative Party chairman, tried to steady nerves over Mr Howarth's resignation. "It is not going to over-shadow the conference. There has been a trade in the other direction. Most have been from Labour to the Conservatives.

Lady Doreen Miller, chairman of Greater London Tories, hlamed Tory leadership for accepting Mr Howarth as a Con-servative. "I think Central Office was daft to let him in,"

want," he said yesterday. "It is for Mr Howarth to decide. I

heartily welcome him into the

Mr Howarth said he could

understand the criticism from

constituents that he did not im-

mediately resign the seat. "But

if you look at our political his-

tory over the last 20 or 50 years

you will see that convention and

practice in our constitution do

not require there to be a by-elec-

tion if the sitting member

changes his allegiance. It has

happened on many occasions.

I am aware of some 60 instances

Howarth's way: Alan Howarth outside his home yesterday responding to the 'vicious'

criticism aimed at him since his defection to Labour

#### Battle for the party moves to the fringe meetings

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES

A fringe meeting called Europe - the Battle for Britain, and hosted by the right-wing Free-dom Association is due to be held tonight. All the members of the so-called Group of Seven, formerly whipless, MPs are

down to speak.

It could equally have been enfitled the Battle for the Soul of
the Conservative Party, such is the determination the issue continues to provoke

The meeting, to be followed up by two fringe appearances by the vanquished leadership challenger John Redwood, show that this year, as in all others in recent memory, the big battles take place away from the anacsthetised atmosphere of the con-ference hall, it is a scene repeated in hotel venues all over Blackpool this week.

Nothing can quite match the almost revivalist fervour of the Tony fringe – and its domination

by one faction of the party. At another Freedom Association/National Young Con-servatives evenl. right wingers Edward Leigh MP and lain Duncan-Smith will speak on The Future of Conservatism

Then follows the first of the well-established crowd-pulling annual events, the Thatchcrite Conservative Way Forward Innehtime meetings where Michael Portillo will get his opportunity to speak to the converted while Peter Lilley takes the microphone at a second lunchtime Way Forward

meeting.
Possibly buoyed by the summer reshuffle, but probably because it is not in their nature, a full-bloodied fightback by the centre-left is hard to divine.

The Bow Group will dehate the future of the British film industry, and the Conservative Group for Europe has con-vened no speakers, holding only a reception - although the Tory Reform Group have invited Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health, lo speak at their dinner.

The Sunday Telegraph has organised a debate between Mr Dorrell and Mr Redward Photograph: Dan Chung on Thursday night.

# Howarth rounds on 'silly claims of mid-life crisis'

**PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES** Political Correspondent

The Labour defector Alan Howarth hit hack yesterday at claims that he deserted the Tory party for personal reasons and a "mid-life crisis",

The Stratford on Avon MP criticised Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, for making the suggestion. "Tve heard she has lowered the tone of the discussion, calling me vindictive and suggesting that I am in mental turmoil. People will have to form their own judgement. I think her comments are silly and unfortunate," he said.

Mr Howarth also criticised Mrs Shephard for failing to secure extra resources to improve educational standards.

But he gave her "marks for try-ing" to stop Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, appealing to the "worst nature" of the Tory party by seeking to make em-ployers screen immigrants.

The MP went on to dismiss newspaper reports linking his move to the recent hreakdown of his marriage. "It was, I suppose, par for the course. Some of what the Tory press has been saying is very vicious."

The fresh outhreak of acrimony came as the Tory party cranked up attempts to bury the issue before the conference gets under way today. Sir Norman Fowler, a former

party chairman, dismissed Mr Howarth's claim that up to 40 Tory MPs shared his feelings about Conservative policies. "It's just a two-to-three day wonder that will not overshadow the conference," he insisted. Delegates also insisted that

Mr Howarth's action had not parliamentary Labour Party." hlighted the conference. They said the people who had been let down were the electors of Stratford on Avon who had thought they were voting for a Conservative MP.

It emerged yesterday that Frank Dobson, Labour's environment spokesman and part of the party's "rebuttal" team in Blackpool, had voted for a Private Member's Bill in 1981 which sought, unsuccessfully, to force MPs who crossed the Commons floor to immediately re-contest their seats in by-elections - a course Mr

over the last 60 years." But the decision was clearly causing anguish on the centreleft of the party. Peter Luff, MP Howarth has refused to take. for the neighbouring Worcester "In a Private Member's Bill you constituency, urged Mr can decide whichever way you

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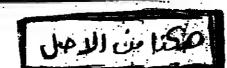
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### NOTE DESIGNATION MERCOR

# Lilley sets agenda to lift party spirit

Chief Political Correspondent Fresh curbs on welfare

"scroungers" are to be announced by Peter Lilley, confirming the worst fears of Alan Howarth, the former minister who defected to Labour, that the Tories are adopting an uncompromising Thatcherite agenda for the general election.

The Secretary of State for Social Security is expected to announce plans for stopping asylum seekers getting auto-matic access to welfare benefits as part of measures to cut alleged fraud costing £6bn. He could emerge as one of the key right-wing speakers to lift the morale of the Tory rank-and-file at the party conference. There will be a Thatcherite edge to the announcements being prepared for the Blackpool conference.

Sir George Young, Secretary of State for Transport, will tomorrow announce that the privatisation of Railtrack is to be accelerated next year to produce an estimated £1.5bn in time for the pre-election Bud-get. The privatisation of Nuclear Electric - stalled by Michael Heseltine, former President of the Board of Trade, because of the cost of decommissioning is expected to be get the goahead for next year, to demonstrate that the Government has

not lost its zeal for privatisation. Downing Street has ordered each Cabinet minister with a platform speech to come up with two ideas for the conference. They have planned a string of announcements to restore the impression that the Government is back on track with a clear agenda, following

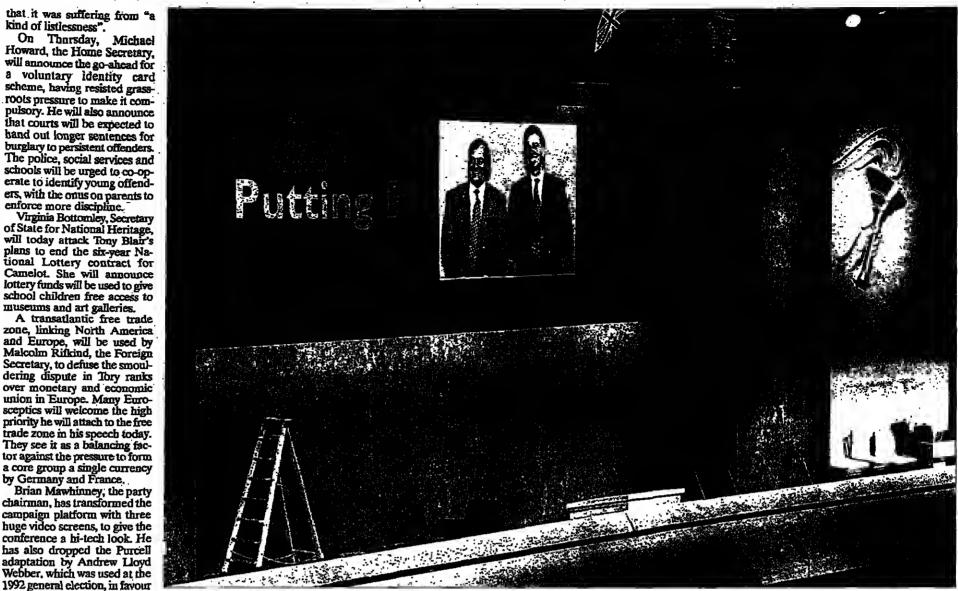
that it was suffering from "a kind of listlessness'

On Thursday, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, will announce the go-ahead for a voluntary identity card scheme, having resisted grassroots pressure to make it compulsory. He will also announce that courts will be expected to hand out longer sentences for burglary to persistent offenders. The police, social services and schools will be urged to co-operate to identify young offend-

enforce more discipline. Virginia Bottomley, Secretary of State for National Heritage, will today attack Tony Blair's plans to end the six-year National Lottery contract for Camelot. She will announce lottery funds will be used to give school children free access to museums and art galleries.

A transatlantic free trade zone, linking North America and Europe, will be used by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, to defuse the smouldering dispute in Tory ranks over monetary and economic union in Europe. Many Eurosceptics will welcome the high priority he will attach to the free trade zone in his speech today. They see it as a balancing factor against the pressure to form a core group a single currency by Germany and France. Brian Mawhinney, the party

chairman, has transformed the campaign platform with three huge video screens, to give the conference a hi-tech look. He has also dropped the Purcell adaptation by Andrew Lloyd Webber, which was used at the 1992 general election, in favour of the theme tune from the film,



Testing time for Tories: The Labour leader Tony Blair and his deputy, John Prescott, stare down from a video screen on to the platform being prepared for the Tory conference which starts today in Blackpool. The party intends to use the picture at an anti-Labour presentation later this week Photograph: Brian Harris

#### Labour to get £7,500 sweetener from sugar firm

DONALD MACINTYRE Political Editor

The board of Tate and Lyle, the sugar giant, has decided to make a donation to the Labour Party for the first time in its history. The company, traditionally a significant backer of the Tory party and a fierce corporate campaigner against nationali-sation, has divided its political contributions among all three

main parties. The company confirmed leaks in Blackpool yesterday that it had reduced its normal annual £25,000 donation to the Conservatives to £15,000 and decided to give £7,500 to Labour and £2,500 to the Lib-

eral Democrats. Tate and Lyle - which dou-hled to £50,000 its annual donation to the Tories in the run up to the last general election - said that the board took a strong view that there should be

state funding of political parties. However, Simon Gifford, the company secretary, said yesterday that the board had recognised that in the absence of state funding it had a responsibility to help political

It had taken into consideration the performance of the Government, "the changing stance of the Opposition and the role of the Liberal Democrats and decided this year to support all three", he said.

Mr Gifford said that the replacement of Clause IV - and the ditching of Labour's historic adherence to state control - had been one consideration in judging how far the Labour Party had changed.

Although the company has made modest donations in the past to the third party - it made one to the Social Democrats in the early 1980s - it has never before given to

Labour. The £7,500 donation is one of the first made by a large company to Labour. The only other one so far known was by the publishing and media conglomerate Pearson, which divided its donations up between the three main parties and

## Tory spin doctors to face challenge of 'rebuttal unit'

and PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES

A five-strong hit team of Labour officials, including Matthew Taylor, head of the party's "Rehuttal Unit", is in Blackpool this week to mount the most high-profile propa-ganda offensive during a Tory conference.

The team of spin doctors and campaign specialists has been

al attacks to which it will be subjected this week.

cludes an experienced press officer from John Smith House, Adrian McMenamin, is being backed up by campaign staff and other members of the Rebuttal Unit in London as well as Alan Barnard, who is responsible for a series of initiatives including leafletting Tory representatives as they enter the Winter Gardens.

The team, which also in-

Labour's media presence is considerably more visible than that of the Conservatives' last week which, except for contact with favoured newspapers, relied largely on a stream of faxes to correspondents in Brighton from Central Office. The term "rebuttal" is bor-

rowed from that used by strateinstalled in the Sun Lounge of Winter Gardens.

gists in Bill Clinton's US Times "spear" story that Neil countered any problems yet," article last week that it was "not Blackpool's Savoy Hotel with David Hill, the party's chief Presidential campaign to de Kinnock was named in KGB said Mr McMenamin. But he impossible" that the company's the aim of defending Labour press spokesman, said the team scribe instant reaction to all files as having met Soviet offiadmitted: "I don't think most newspapers could support Tony against the constant ministeri- was in Blackpool to "rebut lies, claims about the Democrats claim London. Mr Hill called people know we're here yet."

Philp Gould, the party's leading political consultant.

But there has also been an element of two-way transatlantic traffic in the growing rebuttal in-dustry. Mr Hill was consulted by Democratic Party strategists about his success in the run-up to the 1992 British general elec-tion in "spoiling" a Sunday

expose divisions, [and] reveal by the Republicans. The term what is the real agenda of the conference".

by the Republicans. The term was used in the notorious ence to get his retaliation first the less successful the Tory party conference was, the less their ty conference was, the less their

Saturday.
The Labour team will be staying in the Sky Hotel - a rather more modest establishment than the Savoy - on Blackpool's South Shore but are working long hours in the Savoy where a number of Tory delegates will be staying.
"We certainly haven't en-

services would be in demand. We're quite relaxed about

Meanwhile Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, was seen at the Winter Gardens yesterday in earnest conversation with Sir David English, chairman of Associated Newspapers, who wrote in a Spectator

that," he added.



Dave Hill: In Blackpool to re-

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# **Boarding school** parents 'suffer as children have fun'

GGNC HUGNE

Many children enjoy boarding school hut their parents suffer agonies of doubt and guilt, ac-cording to a survey published

The poll of 5,000 parents with children at private and state boarding schools shows homesickness is just as traumatic for them as for their children.

The survey, by the Indepen-dent Schools Information Service, is part of a campaign to reverse the decline in the ounber of boarding pupils, down by a sixth since 1990. Average boarding fees are now more than £10,000 a year.

The report says its findings "lay to rest the notion that boarding parents are uncaring egoists who cannot wait to hand over responsibility for their children to others".

For many parents, it says, "successful results of boarding have been bought at some cost - not just financial but emotional and, for many, a kind of

doubt and guilt".

One parent said that, during the first term, her daughter was desperately homesick.
We all found this an ex-

tremely difficult time," she said.
"Despite her pleading to he removed, we persevered." Two weeks into the secood term, the problem was happily resolved by oegotiating a oew weekly boarding arrangement.

One in three parents believes that their relationship with their child improves because of boarding while only 7 per cent feel it deteriorates. Four out of ten are first-time huyers of boarding education, with oeither pareot having had any persocal experience of

Most parents have to justify their decision to use a boarding school to other parents, particularly the parents of those who are ten or younger. One in five children starts hoarding before they are nine.

Parents choose boarding because they believe it makes their children more mature and independent. They are more interested in the many extra-curricular activities on offer than in a particular school's academic reputation

Six out of ten choose boarding after considering local day schools and around a fifth of parents opt for them because they live overseas or serve in the armed forces.

Overall, only a quarter of parents are concerned about whether a school is co-educational or single-sex, though it is important for 59 per cent of par-ents in girls' schools.

The weekly letter home is apparently a thing of the past. Nearly half of boarders oever write to their parents but almost all telephooe home several times a term. Nearly a quarter telephone several times each

Pareots gave a variety of reasons why their children enjoyed boarding. One parent of three brothers at preparatory school said: "The boys think it's cool to board."





Susan enjoyed a glass of wine after a hard day at the office. She was a Nationwide borrower and had been thinking about moving house when she heard the news. Natioowide have lowered their standard variable tate to 7.95% APR 8.3% (variable) and are rewarding their existing customers with a special preferential discount rate" came a voice from

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her transistor radio. Oh my..." Susan cried "...that means when I move bome I'll save up to £236 a month, get a £500 cashback and a free valuation." Susan cleared up the spillage and poured herself some fine Champagne this was definitely a day to remember. She'd visit a Nationwide branch tomorrow or call free on 0800 30 20 10, quoting ref. PU74.

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# Military's ban on gays 'has no basis in law'

STEPHEN WARD Legal Affairs Correspondent

Britain's policy of banning all gays from the armed forces is mpossible to justify in English law, the Court of Appeal was

told yesterday.

David Pannick QC quoted a letter from a former Lt Cdr in the Royal Navy who had described his sexuality as "no more relevant than whether I eat fish on Fridays".

Mr Pannick was arguing the

case of four dismissed service-

men and women who are fighting to overturn the policy which leaves Britain virtually isolated in the Western world. They say the policy also breaches the European Convention on Human Rights and European Union equal opportunities legislation. In June two High Court iges ruled against the four, but Lord Justice Simon Brown, said the tide of history was against the ban and Mr Justice Curtis said it was not based on evidence. Since then the Gov-

clear they support the ban. This week's appeal hearing has been found a date with un-

view to report by January, but

of Defence had blocked an application to allow the case to go directly to the Lords. It is being heard before the top civil court judge, the Master of the Rolls, Sir Thomas Bingham, and two other appear court judges.

Mr Pannick and that the ban on gays was irrational in terms of law, He said there was no discretion to overlook homosexuality. Gays were forced to leave

ality. Gays were forced to leave even if they were not indulging in sexual activity. They were forced out even if they kept their sexual behaviour completely off the military base. They had to leave however distinguished their military record.

"British forces personnel serve alongside gays from other counties without, on the cvidence, any problems," he said. "If a man has a stable relationship with a civilian and lives away from the militar base, he will be discharged. Yet he can have an affair with a fellow serviceman's wife and not be discharged."

The four appealiog are forernmeot has announced a re-mer Lt Cdr Duncan Lustig-Prean, 36; Graeme Grady, 32, a defence chiefs have made it former RAF sergeant; John Beckett, 25, a former navy weapons engineer and Jeannette Smith, 29, a former RAF usual speed after the Ministry ourse. The case continues today.

#### Firefighters vote for 24-hour strike action

Labour Editor

Nine out of 10 Merseyside firefighters have voted to step up their seven-week campaign of industrial action in protest at compulsory job losses.

in a turnout of more than 80 per cent, members of the Fire Brigades Union voted by 1,160 to 127 to lengthen strikes from nine to 24 hours in a dispute which is considered to have strong nation-wide implications.

A confidential letter from the Home Office has warned that the Army's "Green Goddess" appliances, which have been used during the stoppages, may be oot able to cope with the longer walkouts, but management argues that the prediction

was based on a "misunderstanding". The first day-long strike is scheduled to begin at 9am oo Wednesday next week.

Ken Cameron, geoeral secretary of the FBU, described the vote as "overwhelming" and said it showed the increased determination of his members to fight cutbacks which mean 20 redundancies and the loss of three days' annual leave a year. Both Whitehall officials and

union officers agreed yesterday that other fire authorities throughout Britain may take a similarly tough line over cut-backs if Merseyside managemeot prevails in the dispute.

Mr Cameron said the fire authority should now re-examine alternative proposals to save the required £700,000.

#### DAILY POEM

lyy

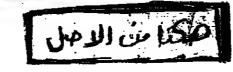
By David Gascogyne

The ivy invading my window-sill needs perennial cutting-back. An ivy-leaf fluttering in the wind reminds me of inhuman oature's obstinate beauty

A patch of pale blue behind it portrays a persistent faiot yearning while the cloud crossing it grey as boredom

is yet tinged with a flush of residual hope.

David Gascoyne was born in 1916 in Harrow, His first collection of poems, Roman Balcony, was published when he was still at school and by the age of 19 he had produced a semi-autobiographical novel, Opening Day, and A short Survey of Surrealism, an account of the Surrealist movement in Paris. Both surrealism and existentialism had a profound effect on his work. producing visionary poems of religious and philosophical intensity which were quite unlike those of his generation. His Collected Poems were published in 1988 by OUP.

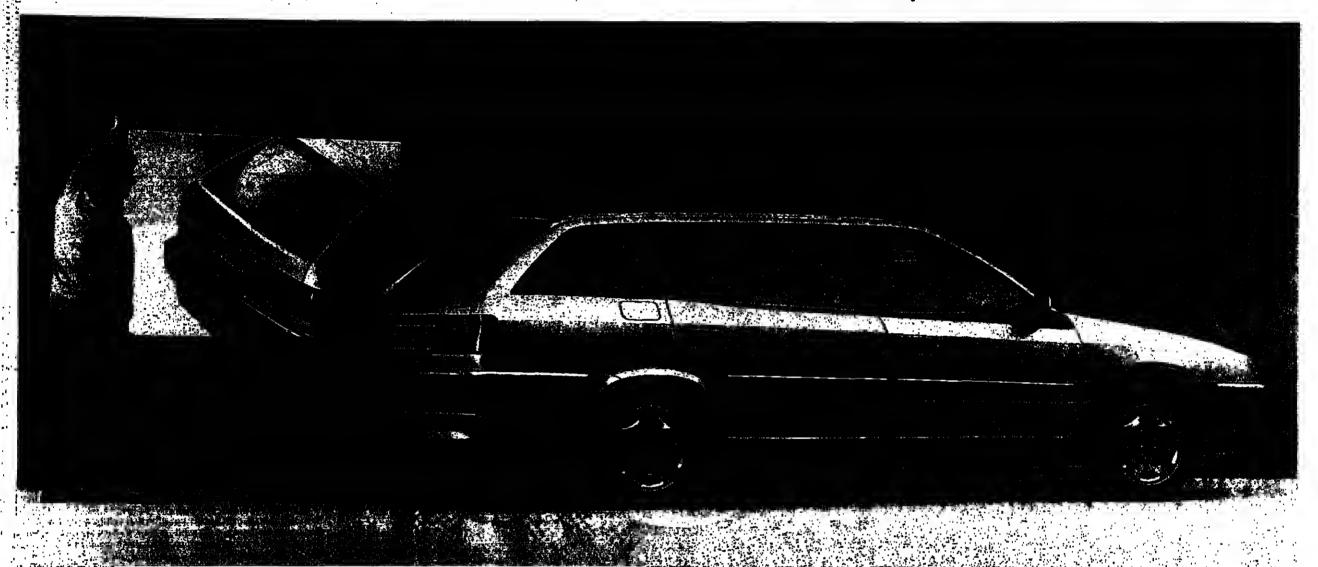




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# Fruit fly embryo research team wins Nobel prize

STEVE CONNOR Science Correspondent

Fundamental insights into how geoes control the growth of an embryo yesterday received the greatest accolade in science – a

Three scientists who piooeered research into the genetics of embryo develop-meot in fruit flies - thereby shedding light on spontaneous abortions and congenital defects in humans - were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiotogy or Medicine. Edward Lewis, 77, from the California Institute of Technology; Christiane Nüess-lein-Volhard, 52, from the Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology in Tuebingen, Germaoy, and Eric F Wie-schaus, 48, of Princetoo Uni-versity in the United States, share the £1m prize.

The Nobel Assembly at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm said the three bad discovered "important geoetic

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fly's body segments that also ap-ply to higher organisms, in-

"Using Drosophila [the fruit fly] Nüssieio-Voibard and Wieschaus were able to identify and classify a small number of geoes that are of key importance in determining the body plan and the formation of body segmeots. Lewis investigated how genes could control the further development of individual body segments in specialised organs. He found that the genes were arranged in the same or-der on the chromosomes as the body segments they controlled."

How an embryo with millions of cells and an array of spe-cialised tissues and orgaos develops from a single fertilised egg is one of the greatest mysteries in biology. Together these three scientists bave achieved a breakthrough that will help explain congenital malformations in man," the

Nobel Assembly said. Nüsslein-Volhard and Wie-

bryo development in the fruit schaus did their pioneering fly's body segments that also apply to higher organisms, in-

ogy Laboratory in Heidelberg.
They developed a systematic method of seeing how different mutations caused correspooding aboormalities in embryo development. "It was a brave decision by two young sci-entists at the beginning of their scientific careers. Nobody had done anything similar and the chances of success were very

Eventually they identified 15 different genes which if mntated would cause defects in the development of the embryo. They established that genes controlling development could be systematically identified. Lewis discovered that the order of geoes along a chro-mosome correspoods to the developmental sequence along the segmented body of the fruit

fly - a crucial finding that has

since been shown to be mirrored

# Psychotic sex killer sent to Broadmoor





News analysis, page 17 | Samantha Bisset and her daughter Jazmine (left), who were killed by Robert Napper (above left), who was sent to Broad

A serial sex attacker who admitted stabbing to death and mutilating a woman and then suffocating her four-year-old daughter was sent to Broadmoor high-security hospital for an indefinite period yesterday after doctors told the court he was "highly dangerous and posed a grave and immediate risk to the public".

Robert Napper, 29, had pleaded oot guilty to the mur-ders of Samantha Bisset, 28, and her daughter Jazmine in November 1993, but guilty to their manslaughter on grounds of di-minished responsibility. Napper also admitted a rape and two attempted rapes in the previous year in south-east London. His

pleas were accepted by Mr Jus-tice Hooper at the Old Bailey.

Detectives have examined possible links between the Napper case and the murder of Rachel Nickell on Wimhledon Common, south-west London. In a statement Scotland Yard said: "We retain an opeo mind wbether the cases are linked."

The court was told by Nigel Sweeney, for the prosecution, that when Napper got into the Bissets' one-bedroom basement flat in Plumstead, south-cast London, he first killed Samantha in the hallway by stabbing her eight times in the neck. Theo he sexually assaulted and suffocated Jazmine in her bed.

The warehouseman dragged Samantha into the living room where he mutilated her body, Mr Sweecey said.

Miss Bisset's body was found by her boyfriend, Conrad Ellam, as he called on a routine visit to the flat the following morning, the court was told. Two largescale police operations were launched which eventually resulted in Napper's arrest, Mr

On 10 March the previous year, Napper - armed with a lock knife - attempted to rape a young woman in Hither Green as she walked through an alley. When she resisted, he became angry and beat her up before escaping. Eight days later, he again stalked a woman near fields in Eltham and attacked her at knifepoint. Both women later identified Napper at identity parades. He was also identified by scientific tests on his semen, the court was told. Two months later, Mr Sweeney said, he stalked a womao as she pushed ber two-year-old daugh-

pushed her two-year-old daugn-ter in a buggy and raped her.
Napper first appeared at the
Old Bailey last week to stand tri-al after denying the double
murder, But the judge was con-cerned about his fitness to plead, "There were five psychiatrists who had reached the conclusioo he was suffering from schizophrenia or something similar. But this defendant did not accept he was suffering from a meotal illness," the judge said yesterday.

The judge had ordered an investigation into whether a jury should be asked to decide whether Napper was mentally fit to stand trial. He was told ves terday that all the psychiatrists concerned had agreed that a plea of diminished responsibility was acceptable.

The judge said that to send Napper to hospital without limit of time would enable "this grossly psychotic and ill man to be treated in a condition of maximum security for as long as was deemed occessary".

### Physiotherapy 'not a proven treatment'

Health Editor

There is no proof that physiotherapy, one of the most widely prescribed treatments in the

health service, actually works. A Consumers' Association report says there is growing pressure oo the 16,000 NHS physiotherapists to evaluate their work in line with demands that only treatments with proven efficacy should be part of a modern health service.

Physiotherapy is increasingy popular for treating everything from terminal diseases, such as motor neurooe disease, to minor sports injuries.

previous research has been crit-icised for failing to eliminate fac-tors which could influence the outcome, such as the expectations patients and practitioners have of the treatment.

In today's issue of Which? Way to Health, the Association also criticises some physiotherapists for including complemeotary therapies as part of their treatment without addi-

tional training or qualifications.

A spokesman for the Chartered Society of Physiotherapists said the Society was conscious of the oeed to show how and are lots of things in healthcare which can't be proven. But we ous treatments is difficult and involved in research." he said.

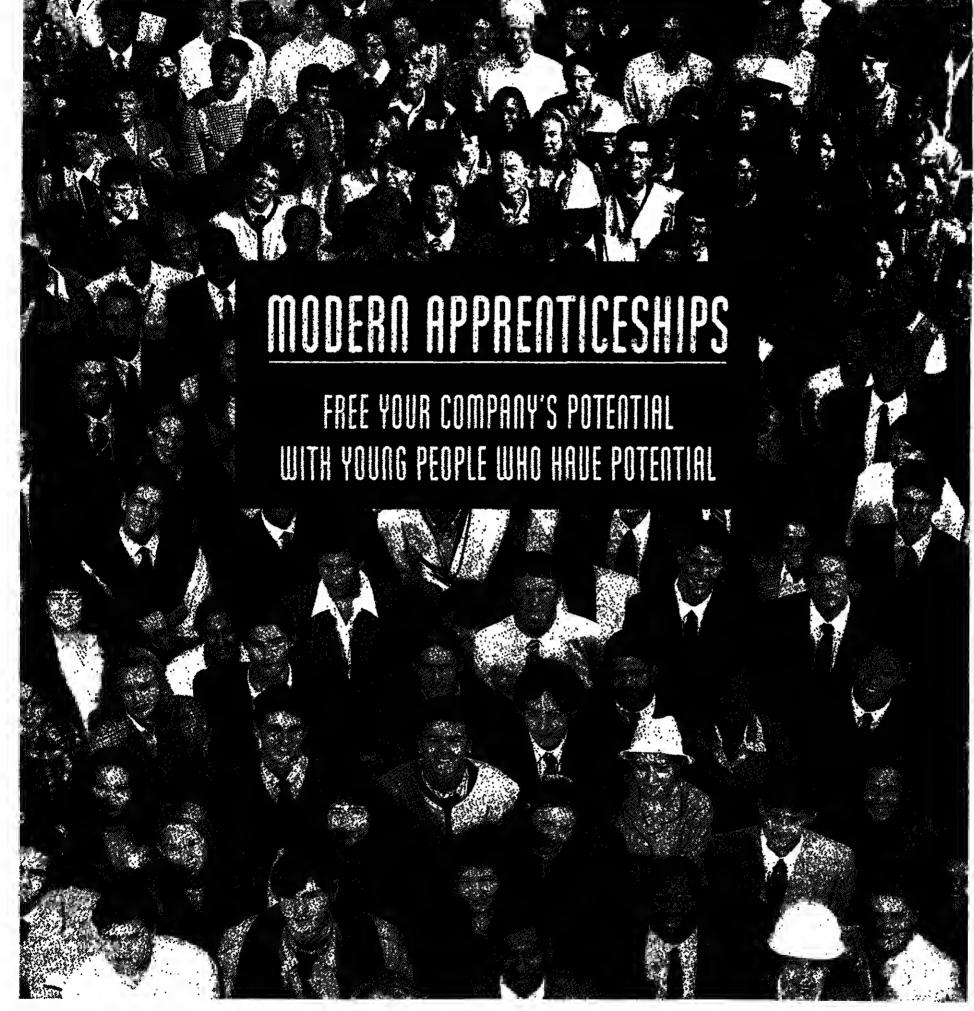
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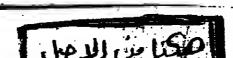


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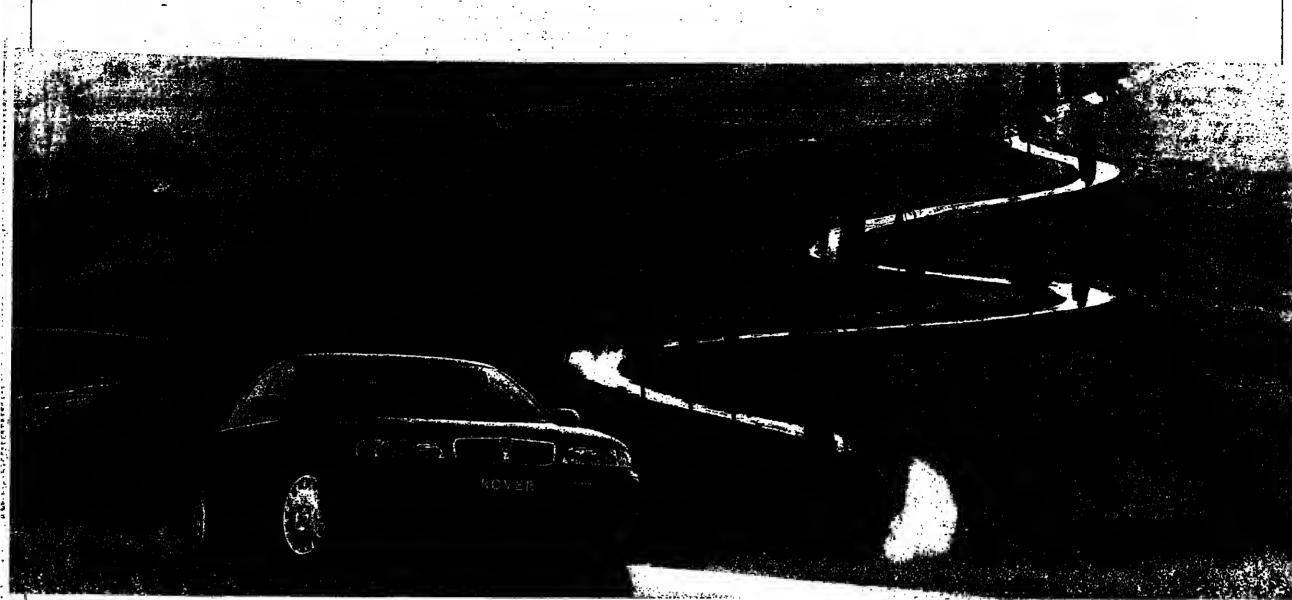
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# Lord Home of the Hirsel

"If" was Rudyard Kipling's most popular poem, and he came to hate it because of its popularity. It was Harold Wilson's favourite poem; and Wilson never tired of quoting it. Two lines of the poem (which fa-mously concludes, "Yours is the Earth and everything that's mit, / And which is more - you'll be a Man, my son!") seem to me particularly to apply to Alec Douglas-Home, 14th Earl of Home, briefly - from 1963 to 1964 - Prime Minister and subsequently, as a life peer, Lord Home of the Hirsel. Before his return to the House of Commons (on his appointment as Prime Minister) Home had held various government offices but, most notably, he was Foreign Secretary from 1960 to 1963 and, again, from 1970 to 1974.

The Kipling lines preceding the conclusion of the poem, which fit exactly Home's character, are:

If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster And treat those two impostors just

Alec Home was certainly, in Kipling's meaning, a Man; and he met Triumph and Disaster with an unruffled serenity which was the essence of his nature.

Perhaps the most characteristic event in Home's life came in August 1965. As is now held by all reputable historians, he had become Prime Minister in October 1963 as a result of a brazen piece of trickery (in which Home himself had no part) by his pre-decessor. Harold Macmillan. (Macmillan was determined. above all else, to deny the succession to R.A. Butler.) The methods employed to outmanoeuvre Butler were such as to give an impetus to moves within the Conservative Party (moves inspired by Humphry Berkeley) to have future leaders chosen by ballot among Tory MPs.

After his narrow defeat by Labour in the general election of 1964, Home set in motion the process by which a system of election would be established. Partly because his national electoral defeat had been so narrow, and partly because of his unforced good nature, Home would have been a certain winner in the party poli of August 1965. To much amazement, he declined to stand, Berkeley being one among the many who urged him to be a candidate. "If they want me," be said, "I will serve. But I won't go begging for it." Thereafter he loyally and effectively served Edward Heath as shadow Foreign Secretary and Henry and a rod or a gun.

a wealthy landed family, possessed of two great Scottish estates, in Berwickshire and Lanarkshire. As with many aristocratic families - particularly the Border families - the wealth and respectability of the Homes was founded on a somewhat murky (if distant) historical background: family tradition has it that the distinctive pronunciation of the name -"Hume" - came about because the first Earl of Home, in the course of a cattle-rustling raid into England, was ambushed by indignant cattle owners. Striving to rally his troops, the earl roared, "Home, Home", so his men decamped. The pronunci-

ation was changed that night. Of the four sons of the 13th earl, Alec was the only one to manifest, early in his life, an interest in politics. (His father had none.) William became a playwright, noted for his light comedies, and Henry (father of the late Charles, editor of the Times) a reclusive ornithologist. "I think it began," he once told me, "because as a boy I was fas-cinated by history. But it only really developed when I married Elizabeth." This was in 1936. Elizabeth was the daughter of the formidable historian C.A. Alington, Home's headmaster at Eton and, at the time of the

marriage, Dean of Durham. However, when he married, Home had been MP for Lanark for five years. His campaigns in one of the toughest of the Scot-tish seats showed a capacity for taking political flak (he once had to escape potentially violent hecklers by climbing through a rear window and dropping from the first floor to the ground) which, in due course, was to sur-prise those who fell for Harold Wilson's description of him as effete. He suffered, too, in gaining international sporting distinction, twice having a thumh broken when playing international cricket for MCC. (He was the only prime minister who ever played the game at that level; and his only prime

If Alec Home had any enemies,

they would be extremely hard



ministerial sporting rival was Edward Heath, when he skippered Morning Cloud to victory in the Sydney-Hobart yacht race in 1969.)

From very early on Home was a reclusive child of the countryside. His father began to teach him to shoot and fish at the age of six, and these two sports absorbed him for the rest of his life. (He never learnt to ride properly, as he was afflicted with a weak back.) To the despair of his mother, he was intensely shy outside the family circle. He hated the company of other children. "My mother," he told me, "was constantly having children's parties, or packing me off to parties at other bouses. I found it positively mortifying. I just wanted to spend my time with a book, or out with William

and Foreign Secretary.

Home was born in 1903 into

Eton and Curist Church, Oxford, bowever, brought out the inherent geniality of Home's temperament. He was never distinguished as a scholar, and left university with a third-class degree of which he said, later in life, rather ruefully, "I'm afraid I spent rather too much time at the wicket." None the less, the vision of an outer world to which Oxford introduced this scion of a somewhat obscure landed family served the Conservative candidate in Lanark in 1931 well. Home brought a larger understanding than was common among Tory candidates in the Scotland of that time to the grim, and sometimes desperate, affairs of a depressed local economy.

His historical reading had

brought him to a deep, and lat-

er profound, interest in international relations, which was wonderfully expressed in his Letters to a Grandson (1983). Home could absorb the most complex of political information and, for a speech, distil it with simple lucidity. He was never a great orator - his voice was too light, for one thing - hut to the end of his life he had a directness of utterance which had great appeal. Thus, for example, when he was Foreign Secretary in the government headed by Harold Macmillan, he addressed himself to the refusal of the Soviet Union to pay her dues to the United Nations. Mindful of the fact that a speech in Preston would be closely scrutinised in the United States, he took the central slogan of the 18th-century American revolutionaries - "No taxation without representation" - and inverted it. So far as the Soviet Union was concerned, he said that there should be "no representation

without taxation". Shortly thereafter the Russians paid up. Until 1935 Home's understanding of foreign policy was derived entirely from his reading of history. In that year, however, the Prime Minister, Neville Chamherlain, appointed Home his Parliamentary Pri-

vate Secretary, an unpaid dogsbody's joh which, none the less, gave Home a priceless opportunity to see at close hand the inner workings of the most momentous period of international relations in the 20th century. To the end of his days Home

maintained that the Munich Agreement of 1938 (he acnpanied Chamberlain to his meeting with Hitler in that city) was justified, on the grounds that it gave the United Kingdom time to re-arm. Some historians doubt that any serious effort at rearmament was undertaken. But the record shows that Home, unlike Chamberlain, had no doubts about the maligaity of Hitler. Already a major in the Lanarkshire Yeomanry, he intended to serve in

three books were always on the go - a straight novel, a detective story and a work of history, for preference political hiography. He also acquired a hobby judged a trifle bizarre by his friends. He learnt the theory and practice of flowerarranging. Almost to the end of his life he did all the flowerarranging at the Hirsel, the family seat in Berwickshire, because I was best at it, and if I didn't do it nobody else would anyway". His naturally sunny temperament sustained him. during the war years, but another misfortune awaited him: in the general election of 1945 he lost Lanark.

Home returned to the Commons when the Tories won the 1951 general election and was made Minister of State at the



Home in 1939: PPS to the Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain Scottish Office, where he served

Misfortune then struck. His back had been giving him increasing trouble. He was diagnosed tubercular and, in accord with the medical wisdom of the day, consigned to bed. At a stroke, Home was taken away from both work and pleasures. Because of agreement hetween the parties which formed the coalition government in May 1940 he remained MP for Lanark. By the terms of that agreement the life of Parliament was prolonged for the duration of the war and, in the event of the death of a sitting member, his party would have a free run in a by-election. There was nothing, therefore, to be done

Left without politics, unable to fight, shoot or fish, Home could only lie, or sit, and read. He adopted a reading hahit which he kept up until old age:

for nearly four years, concerning himself mainly with the problems of Scottish agriculture, on which subject he was, of course, already an expert. For most of that time he was in the Lords (he had succeeded as 14th Earl of Home on his father's death in July 1951). In 1955 he became Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations and in 1957 he added to this post that of Lord President of the Council, with a brief to oversee the merger of the Com-monwealth and Foreign Offices. But there was considerable astonishment when Harold Macmillan made him Foreign Secretary in 1960. In opposition ranks there was outrage. The Labour Party believed that the Foreign Secretary, like the Chancellor of the Exchequer, should always sit in the Com-

'Do not worry, all will be well' great sportsman: a first-class shot and fisherman. He knew much about racing and discussed nearly every day on the telephone the form of the borses with his late brother William,

the playwright. Those who knew him will remember him at home, reading his cabinet papers or preparing a speech, with grandchildren playing all around him, or strid-

mons. They were also con- baron) and even during revinced that Home would be merely a mouthpiece for the Prime Minister.

cesses worked two hours a day

on official papers. Although

he handed the administration of

his estates over to one of his

daughters he exercised a gen-

eral supervision of his land. He

fished, accompanied by a black Labrador, and looked after the

two and a half acres of beauti-

ful garden at the Hirsel. "The

back's troublesome," he told me

in 1989, "so I do the gardening

lying flat." I asked how this was

said. "One can see the roots."
Home was a wonderful com-

panion. The warmth of his per-

sonality and the readiness of his

wit captivated all who knew him.

In defence of his country's in-

times. Yet he could have given

himself an easier life on his es-

tates. Especially after 1974, no-

body could have gainsaid him if he had retreated to the Hirsel.

the public service. He was a

Patrick Cosgrave

great servant of the nation.

ible. He rose and lay flat on

But, whereas it is the law that the Chancellor should always be in the lower house (because it has sole control over money bills), the position over the Foreign Secretary was merely a convention. (There would be no bar to a prime minister sitting in the upper house, but it would, of course, be impractical, as Home decided in 1963.) And Labour was soon disabused of the notion that Home would be other than his own man. His knowledge of foreign policy was profound. His utterance wa trenchant

Home and Macmillan were in general agreement on pohcy, but there were differences emphasis between them. Home was far less starry-eyed than Macmillan about joining the Common Market. He was content to leave the detailed negotiations to the Lord Privy Seal, Edward Heath. But he kept a sharp eye on progress, argued powerfully in Cabinet against giving too much away and, with a prescience that was beyond Heath and Macmillan. warned his colleagues that President de Gaulle would veto British entry.

De Gaulle's veto was one of

Alexander Frederick Douglas-Home, politician: born Cold-stream, Berwickshire 2 July 1903; styled Lord Dunglass 1918-51; MP (Unionist) for South Lanark 1931-45; PPS to the Minister of many blows struck against the faltering Macmillan government. The economy was in serious difficulty. A series of scandals, mainly connected with Labour 1935-36, to the Chan-cellor of the Exchequer 1936-37, to the Prime Minister 1937-40; Soviet espionage - the Vassall affair, the defection to the Soviet Union of Donald Maclean Joint Parliamentary Under-Sec-retary, Foreign Office 1945; MP (Conservative) for Lanark 1950-51; succeeded 1951 as 14th Earl and Guy Burgess - was followed by the news that John Profumo, the Secretary of State for War, was associated with a prostingte, Christine Keeler, who was of Home (disclaimed his heredof Home (assciaimen his never-itary peerages for life 1963); PC 1951; Minister of State, Scottish Office 1951-55; Secretary of State friendly with an attaché at the Soviet embassy, and had lied to the House of Commons about for Commonwealth Relations the affair. Macmillan was both 1955-60; Deputy Leader, House of Lords 1956-57; Leader, House of Lords, and Lord President of disillusioned and weary. He developed a prostate problem and, in October 1963, decided to resign. He was determined the Council 1957-60; Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs 1960-63; KT 1962; MP (Unionist) for Kinross and West Perthshire above all else that R.A. Butler, the obvious candidate, should not succeed him and, there be-1963-74; Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury 1963ing no system of election for Conservative leaders, was able, 64; Leader of the Opposition 1964-65; Secretary of State for by a series of unscrupulous manocurres, to procure the suc-Foreign and Commonwealth Afcession for Home. (Home fairs 1970-74; created 1974 played no part in the Macmil-Baron Home of the Hirsel; mar-ried 1936 Elizabeth Alington lan plot - at one time he tried to withdraw from the contest.) (died 1990; one son, three daugh-ters); died Coldstream 9 October

The new prime minister faced formidable problems, not least of which was the refusal of Izin Macleod and Enoch Pow ell to serve him in Cabinet, both men having been Butler partisans. He had no experience of economic policy. He had little time - a general election had to be held at the latest within a year. He had to find a seat in the House of Commons (recent legislation had enabled him to disclaim his title). And, finally, he was faced by Harold Wilson, the most brilliant Labour leader of modern times.

Having won a by-election, Home faced the most difficult year of his life. Labour possessed a commanding lead in the opinion polls, and Wilson regularly wrong-footed him in the House. But Home's shining integrity, his essential decency, and his command of foreign pol icy at a tricky time in international relations all got through to the electorate. He lost the general election of 1964, but only just, Labour having a majority of only three. "It was not remarkable that Alec lost," observed a colleague. "It was a miracle that he so nearly won."

Largely because of disgust with Macmillan's scheming, the Conservatives decided in future to elect their leaders. In the first contest, in 1965, Home having declined to stand, Edward Heath became leader. Home served him loyally and, after the Tory victory of 1970, served again as Foreign Secretary, sig-nalling his forceful return to the job he loved by expelling 115 So-viet diplomats who, he believed, were spies. The autumn of his executive career demonstrated his continued grasp of policy, and his decisiveness, though the most important matter of foreign policy, joining the EEC, was kept in the hands of the Prime Minister, who took British membership of the Community as his principal

cause in politics.

After the unexpected Conservative defeat in the general election of February 1974 Home announced his retirement. It was to be an active retirement. He made many speeches in the House of Lords (where he had returned as a life

### The real-life Duke of Omnium in Trollope: honourable, decent, straightforward

minister has had a shorter tenure than Alec Home. This was Bonar Law (1922-23) who resigned because of ill-health in May 1923 and died a few months later. Maynard Keynes, who knew him well, wrote words which could be applied to Alec Home too.

possible. He rose and lay flat on his back on the carpet and mimed how he went about the The public, he said, have regarded Bonar Law as "a great public servent whose life of job. "There are advantages," he austerity and duty has served them rather than himself". And he went on: "Many politicians are too much enthrailed by the crash and glitter of the struggle, their hearts obviously warmed by the swell and pomp of auterests, however, he was a man of steel, and his profound knowledge of the history and thority. We have preferred to be governed by the said smile of one practice of foreign policy was in-valuable to Britain in dangerous who adopts towards the greatest office in the state the attitude that whilst of course it is nice to be Prime Minister, it is no great thing to covet, and who feels in office and not merely afterwards the vanity of things."
Alec Home's smile was nev-But he continued to labour in

er sad, but otherwise the description fits. He was certainly not an addict of "the crash and glitter". He was naturally pleased to be Prime Minister. "Only a fool," he wrote, "would deny a feeling of gratification at occupying the honourable place of First Minister of the

Crown, It does not follow that the pleasure continued throughout his year in office. "If I have a regret," he wrote, "it is that, by reason of the fact that I never dreamed of holding the position, I had taken no particular steps to prepare myself for it. Had I done so I would have soaked myself more thoroughly in domestic issues rather than specialising so completely in foreign affairs."

There have been highly successful prime ministers who specialised in foreign policy. Palmerston and Salisbury are obvious examples. But they lived in an era when the national economy was regarded rather as the weather is today - something outside the scope of politics or ministerial responsibility. Anthony Eden was the first ex-Foreign Secretary to occupy Number 10 since the Second World War - indeed, the first since Lord Salisbury, and he was never at ease in dealing with domestic affairs. Yet during this

Only one Conservative prime century, with rare exceptions, it has been the home front where elections have been won

> Home also suffered from the extraordinary concatenation of circumstances which made his elevation possible at all: the Pecrage Renunciation Act; the timing of Harold Macmillan's unnecessary (as it turned out) resignation; Macmillan's determination to dish Rab Butler; the "Magic Circle"; the questionable methods used to assure the Queen that Home was the man the party wanted. If one adds to these the "grouse-moor image", the 14th earldom and a singular lack of telegenic appeal, it is easy to understand the problems of a premiership which was largely an election campaign. Home was no good at the "soundbite", though by saying that he presumed Harold Wilson was the 14th Mr Wilson he did manage to put a stopper on one particularly sil-ly form of electioneering

inverted snobbery.

Given all these handicaps, the surprise was not that he lost the election of 1964 but that he very nearly won it, raducing a Labour lead of some 12 percentage points to only 0.7. But loss is loss, however narrow the margin. There was the in-evitable backlash. He was right to resign after making arrange-ments for an electoral system to choose the successor; though it will long be argued whether the system was a good one.

Alec Home was a very dis-tinguished Foreign Secretary. hut he was not a great Prime Minister. If one seeks an analogy it should perhaps not be found in the history books but in fiction. Alec Home was the real-life Duke of Omnium in Trollope's The Prime Minister. honourable, decent, straightforward. When the Duke resigned and was asked to join the Cabinet of his successor he at first said that Caesar could not serve under Pompey but after an interval changed his mind.

Alec Home did not hesitate to serve under Heath, and his second spell at the Foreign Office was perhaps the highlight in the career of one generally acclaimed as the nicest man in politics during the 20th century.

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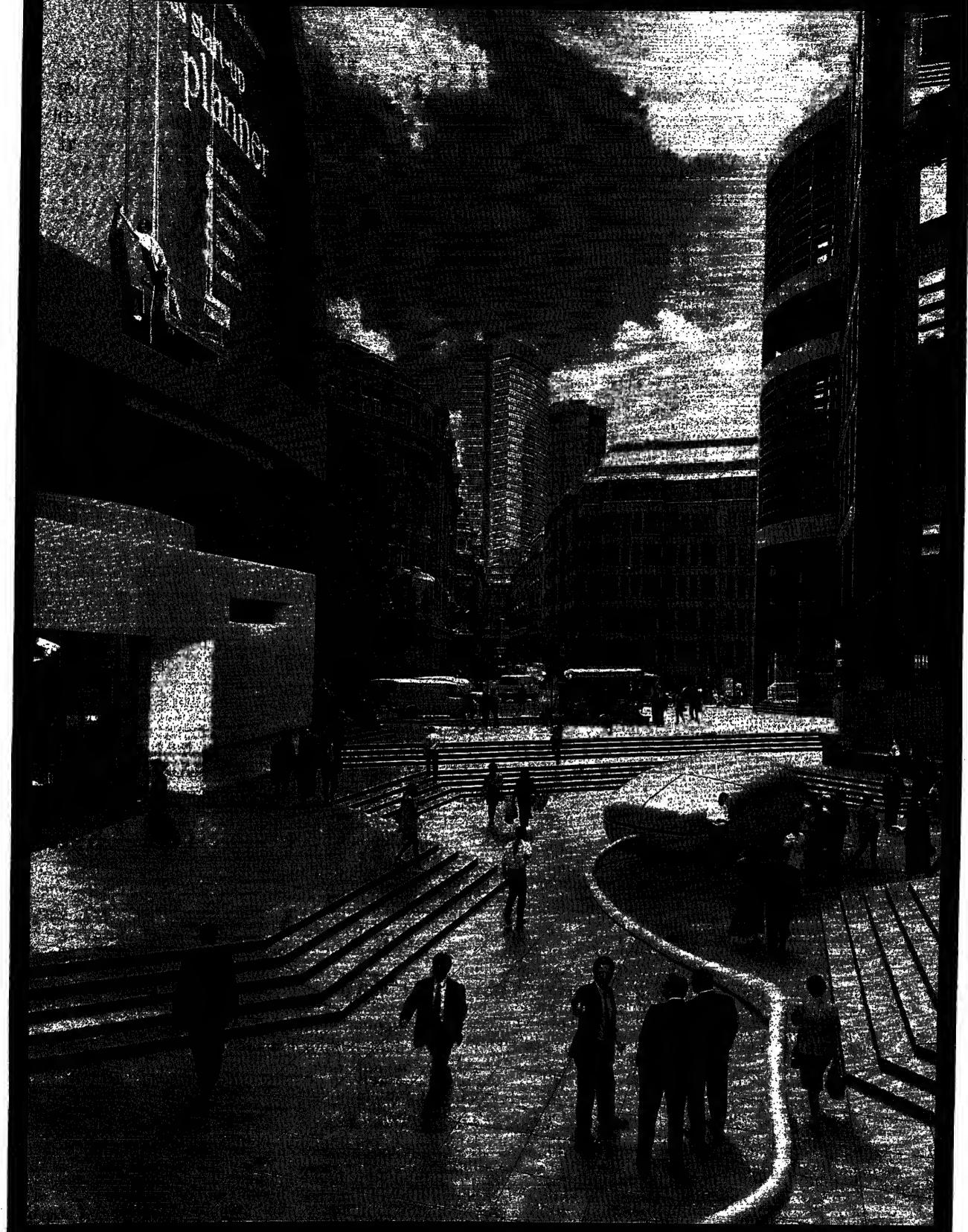
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they would be extremely hard to find, writes Viscount Whitelaw. He had a quality of always appearing just the same: simple, straightforward, totally honest, and behind it all, full of good fun. He was able to enjoy success and bappiness while bearing rebuff and sadness with amazing fortitude.

Home's good understand-home's good understand-hom

ing and calmness very nearly gave the Conservative Party this was a tense time. At one family of three daughters and early ears, with a ers. He was also most knowledgeable about birds. He was a people many years his junior.

ient Rate Aufgefall felug



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Pay revolt: Union action will cripple the country and intensify pressure on a beleaguered government's economic strategy

# France faces paralysis by public sector strikes

STEPHEN JESSEL

Much of France will be paralysed today by a 24-hour strike called by seven unions representing five million civil serlocal authority employees, hospital staff and other public sector workers in franc is in no man's land," said protest against government Kit Juckes, currency strategist at Nat West Markets in London. plans to freeze their wages.

The industrial action is expected to be on a scale not seen since similar protests nine years ago, and represents the most serious challenge yet to the government of Alain Juppé, already buffeted by attacks on the franc and damaging revelations about his housing

A degree of calm returned to the foreign exchange markets yesterday after the Bank of France raised its 24-hour interest rate from 6.15 per cent to

7.25 per cent. After an auxious morning the franc steadied against the German mark. But today's strike, and oew evidence relating to Mr Juppé's role in the allotment to him of a luxury apartment owned by the city of Paris, left the markets wary of his future and that of the strong franc policy. "The

"I doo't think it will hold the line," said Paul Mortimer-Lee, chief ecocomist at Paribas Capital Markets. Schools, colleges and public transport are expected to be hit hardest by today's strike, originally called by fonctionnaires

Juppé told them they would receive no pay rise in 1996. Other public sector workers

employed by the state, local au-

thorities and hospitals after Mr

public transport staff - decided to join, expecting that the government planoed the same thing for them. They also want to display their muscle to the oew government, appointed in May, in advance of negotiations over the future of the social se-

curity system. Rail travellers were hit as the strike took effect last night. Only about a quarter of main-line trains were expected to run to-day. It was hoped that seven Eurostar trains would run from Paris to London and six in the other direction. Few, if any, underground trains will run in the Paris area, and bus services will be severely curtailed.

There will be few postal deliveries, though post offices should open. Hospitals will maintain emergency services, but they will be badly disrupt-Other public sector workers ed. Most government offices and town halls will be closed.

though some schools will open to supervise pupils who would otherwise be left alone at home. Marches are planned in Paris and several big cities.

Mr Juppé's announcement at the weekend that he is giving up the lease on his flat - the centre of controversy since it emerged that it was let to him at an artificially low rent while he occupied a senior post at the Paris city hall - has failed to silence his critics.

Yesterday Le Monde pro-duced a further document challenging the claim that Mr Juppé had not abused his position to award himself the flat. It appeared to show that he did indeed have responsibility for the city's stock of flats at the relevant time, and may have benefited personally from his



Respite for franc, page 23 Royal visit: President Jacques Chirac with King Juan Carlos in Madrid before talks with the Spanish government



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### 'Hot Autumn' tests Juppé's will to fight

TONY BARBER Europe Editor

Today's one-day strike by public employees in France may have momentous consequences for French foreign and eco-oomic policy. If the embattled Prime Minister, Alain Juppé. fails to beat off the growing challenge from the public sector unions, international markets may judge that his government lacks the determination for the stringent economic policies needed to ensure that Prance qualifies for a single European. currency in 1999.

That in turn could delay or even bury monetary union, a project on which the bulk of the French political élite has set its heart, especially since Ger-many's unification in 1990. "It is now crucial that the government faces down the unions in what is increasingly looking like a 'hot autumi' on the industrial relations fromt. We are somewhat sceptical about the sovernment's stomach for a fight," said David McWilliams, an analyst at UBS Global Research in London. The franc and the French stock market have falleo since Mr Juppé forced the tough-talking Fi-nance Minister, Alain Madelin, to resign in August after he urged cuts in civil service jobs.

Other experts warn that France's political establishment views European mooetary unioo as so vital to the national interest that the government is unlikely to cave in to the unions. They believe the gov-erument will make every effort to meet the Maastricht treaty targets for joining a single currency, even at the cost of an unemployment rate around the present level of 11.5 per ceot. The strikers want the goverament to reverse a public sector pay freeze announced for

oext year. The freeze is part of an economic programme de-signed to reduce France's budget deficit from 5 per cent of gross domestic product to the 3 per cent needed to meet the

Maastricht targets. Government officials say some employees will get a pay rise next year because of wage accords in the pipeline. But in o sign that public opinion is not solidly behind Mr Juppe, a survey published in Le Figuro suggested that 47 per cent of Freoch people approved of the strike. Only 48 per cent disapproved.

Union leaders say the public appreciates their argument that they are being made scapegoats for France's economic problems. The Civil Service Minister, Jean Puech, responds that the government cannot afford extra pay rises in 1996, but is willing to negotiate increases in a deal covering the next two or three years.

mour: N

From the government's view point, today's strike may be a harbinger of worse to come. Union leaders have warned that they will not tamely accept Mr Juppe's plan for the com-plete elimination in two years of the state's Fr68bn (££6bn) welfare system deficit. The Prime Minister has not yet explained how be proposes to wipe out the deficit, another factor prompting market scepticism about the government's policies. Mr Juppe is struggling to hold this year's overall deficit to Fr320bn (£40bo) and cut the 1996 shortfall to Fr290bn (£37.6bn).
A study released vesterday

said that Mr Juppe's budget. which raises tax revenue but allows a 1.8 per coot increase in spending, was not likely to bring the deficit as a proportion of GDP down to 4 per cent next year, as the government projected. The figure is likely to be about 4.5 per cent, according to the French Observatory of Economic Performance, though it said unemployment was expected to cootinue its fall.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development says state workers in France made up 25 per ceot of the workforce in 1993, compared with 14.5 per ceot in the United States.

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#### Ministers swap desks to man the newsroom

Paris (Reuter) — The French financial daily Les Echos ditched its usual staff for yesterday's edisorday's edisorday's edisorday's edisorday's edisorday's edisorday's edisorday is edisorday in the state of the stat tion to take on a group of novice reporters, including cabmet ministers and the governor of the central bank.

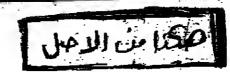
Instead of making the headiines, prominent French personalities wrote them to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the clite Ecole Nationale d'Administration post-gradoate school for civil servants.

Sixty-four ENA graduates took part. Yet, although well-informed, the new reporters seemed to come up with fewer scoops than a normal edition of

The Foreign Minister, Herve de Charette, wrote an article entitled "Exports represent a real mine for jobs," while the Justice or rolled steel?" would win as many points as the right answer.

One of the more thoughtful articles was a review by the Bunk of France governor, Jean-Claude Trichet, of John Kenneth Galbraith's book A Journey through Economic Time. Mr Trichet praised him as "a master of the art of communica-

The leftist daily Liberation had a more irreverent tribute. publishing what it joked were questions at a typical ENA oral exam, where a self-confidence is as highly prized as knowledge.
To the question "What was
South Korea's steel production in 1992?" it reckoned that a bluff from someone who did not know like "Yes, of course, Flat



# War's high tide on eve of peace

EMMA DALY Sarajevo

The poisonous tide of Bosnia's war reached a high yesterday in advance of a ceasefire due to take effect one minute after midnight last night, with the death of a peace-keeper from Serb artillery, the subsequent despatch of Nmo jets to strike at the smoking gun, heavy fight-ing along front lines and the "ethnic cleansing" of 3,500 Muslims from Serb-held towns.

A Norwegian UN soldier who was hit by shrapnel at the Tuzla air base yesterday afternoon died on the operating table, a UN spokesman said. The base had been shelled sporadically all day, and it was unclear why the soldier was not in n bomb shelter.

Two jets, believed to be US F-16s, dropped at least two laser-guided bombs on a Bosnian Serb military command and control bunker near Tuzla at the UN's request, a Nato spokesman said. Although the pilots could not identify the offending heavy guns threatening peace-keepers, the UN con-sidered the bunker to be linked to the artillery fire, Bomb-damage assessments were under way, and the two planes returned to base safely.

Autum

s Juppés

to fight

More than a dozen civilians were killed and almost 100 wounded in Serb attacks in the Tuzla area on Sunday, and artillery exchanges continued across the line east of the town yesterday, Lieutenant-Colonei Chris Vernon, a UN spokesman, said. The air raids came not as punishment but as protection for peace-keepers.

Fierce fighting continued in north-western Bosnia, where sources said Muslim troops bad taken Sanski Most, a town resonant with horror as one of the worst sites for murder, torture and ethnic cleansing.



No let-up: Bosnian Serb gunners continue to fire during fighting with Muslim and Croat forces in western Bosnia

ed that 3,500 Muslims had been expelled, in ghastly conditions, from the area while the Serbs were in control. Most were women, children and elderly people who had been separated from men of military age. Kris Janowski of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, denouncing the "extremely bru-tal expulsions", said another 600 people from Sanski Most were expected to reach central

Bosnia yesterday. They were expelled in an ap-UN refugee officials report- palling way," Mr Janowski said.

They were forced to wade through a river and some people drowned. Others died of exnaustion." Men of military age had been taken away to camps, according to refugees, and around 100 killed by paramili-taries who also terrified local Serbs into ostracising the Muslims they had earlier tolerated.

Military successes around Sanski Most, gateway to Prijedor, whose loss would be devastating to the Serbs, may encourage the Bosnian government to try and postpone the stored to Sarajevo. Bosnian

ceasefire. It condemned the fatal shelling of a refugee centre near Tuzia on Sunday, but said it should not affect the planned truce. "This is an act of pure terrorism, which proves what the Serbs really are, but this will not influence the ceasefire because conditions for its implementation are set," President Alija Izethegovic said,

However, the truce was only to come into effect at 12.01am

and Serb officials were to meet at Sarajevo airport last night to assess progress. Peace-keepers and technicians worked frantically to repair the power lines, hut gas engineers stood idle at two plants close to the city. awaiting a green light from the Russian company that supplies Bosnia. The Russians have refused to restore the flow, via Hungary, because they are owed more than \$100m in unpaid bills for gas used in Sara-

jevo and diverted by the Serbs

away from the city. Bosnian of-

ficials flew to Moscow yesterday for talks on the issue. Once the tap is turned in Hungary, gas should reach the suburbs in about 12 hours, according to Tony James of the British Overseas Development Administration, which is running the gas system.
The ODA engineers have

refurbished a second pipeline unused since 1992, and upgraded more than 5,000 dangerous and illegal gas connections to houses in

Photograph: Reuter

# **Brussels** to get tough with Paris over N-tests

SARAH HELM

In response to a wave of public pressure, the European Commission is expected to take legal steps tomorrow that could halt French nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

Using its powers under the Euratom Treaty, the Commis-sion is expected to send a letter to the French government demanding access to all safety information relating to geolog-ical damage and radioactivity. According to a text being dis-cussed in Brussels, the letter will instruct France to hand over the information within five days and in any case before any further tests in the current series are carried out".

Although two tests have been carried out, the Commission has until now declined to invoke European law, which gives it the power to assess health and safety measures before any "particularly dangerous experiment" is carried out by a member state.

Jacques Santer, the Comnission President, has been reluctant to provoke a clash with France, in view of the potential political backlash for the EU. The Commission's nuclear experts advised Mr Santer to send a verification team to inspect safety measures as long ago as July, but none was sent until after the first test.

French lobbying against in-tervention by the Commission has been intense. Last week it was revealed in a secret diplomatic memorandum that France was confident it had an understanding with Mr Santer York, head of the National Rethat the Commission would not publican Senatorial Committee take action.

However, several factors have brought about a tougher Commission stance. There has been mounting public criticism, reflected in an increasingly belropean Parliament, which against radiation. Article 34 debates the issue tomorrow. states: "Any member state in The parliament has warned that it might take the Commission to the European Court of Justice for failing in its duty as a "guardian of the treaty".

The Commission initiative

has also been provoked by anger at France's failure to hand over sufficient information on safety measures in the South

That has intensified in recent days, since Commission officials who visited the reginn were refused access to the test sites. Nuclear experts working in Brussels have raised serious concerns about potential danger from the tests, warning that cracks in the rock strata could allow leaks of radiation.

The Commission hopes that the letter to Paris will bring about a political compromise. However, if enough safety information is not provided or it does not prove satisfactory, the issue could be taken to the European Court of Justice.



Jacques Santer, Reluctant to provoke a clash

The EU's Euratom Treaty provides the only legal avenue for a challenge to the nuclear testing. Previous tests carried out during the Cold War provoked less concern from the anti-nuclear lobby, and the treaty has rarely been invoked. With the end of the Cold War, however, Greenpeace, supported by many member states, has raised the issue.

The powers of the Commission come under Chapter Three of the treaty, which gives Brussels responsibility for protecting the health and safety of workligerent attitude from the Eu- : ers and the general public states: "Any member state in whose territories particularly dangerous experiments are to take place shall take additional health and safety measures, on which it shall first obtain the opinion of the Commission."

### Democrats reel as Nunn decides to stand down



Sam Nunn: Seeking more freedom and flexibility

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

The cause of the Democrats, in the South and on Capitol Hill, took another heavy blow yes-terday as Senator Sam Nunn of gress and its leading defence ex-pert, announced he will step down in 1996.

Though far from unexpected, his decision not to seek a fifth six-year term dismayed a party still struggling to adjust to its minority status on Capitol Hill and whose goal is less to regain control of the Senate than to pre-

Speaking at the state Capitol Georgia, one of the party's in Atlanta where his political camounced, his will be the most respected voices in Congress and its leading defence expert, announced he will step reer, and emphasised he was not bowing out of the public arena - he has been touted as a possible Secretary of State should Bill Clinton win a second term.

copying

the prospect of a long time in opposition, and by the shift to vent the Republicans next year the left of the congressional De-increasing their 53 seats to a mocratic party. Of the eight Defilibuster-proof majority of 60. mocratic departures from the Senate next year so far an-

> August that he was stepping down, Mr Nunn is a pragmatic centrist, ready if necessary to go against the party line and an authoritative figure on both sides

Clearly, he was frustrated by of the aisle. Such is his prestige that even Republicans on the position, and by the shift to Senate Armed Services Committee, which he used to chair, are said privately to have implored him to stay.

Even more important, the Democrats will lose perhaps their most powerful bulwark in the South, increasingly a Republican preserve in congressional and presidential elections. Mr Nunn's move proved that Southern Democrats were "in full retreat," said Alphonse D'Amato of New

Republicans will have high hopes of the Nunn seat. Almost all the eight Democratic vacancies are vulnerable - but few more so than his in Georgia, seven of whose 11 Congressmen are Republican, including House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who could not resist a partisan shot yesterday: "For those who have listened carefully, the Democratic Party is not the vehicle for values outlined by Senator Nunn."

#### INBRIEF

German socialist leader fights to survive

Bonn - Top figures in Germany's opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD) looked more and more intent yesterday on ditching their leader to try to reverse the centre-left party's unprecedented slump in popularity and crisis of identity. Rudolf Scharping has become the SPD's whipping boy as it dives in polls and squabbles internally instead of fulfilling a pledge to put the squeeze on Chancellor Helmut Kohl's sline 10-seat majority. The conservative daily Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said the pow-erful premiers of SPD-led states were now scheming furiously to dump Mr Scharping and he might not last two weeks. Reuter

#### Doubt cast on French-Algerian summit

Paris -- France said yesterday it had not yet been decided whether President Jacques Chirac would have a first ultra-sensitive meeting with Algeria's military ruler, General Liamine Zeroual, later this month. "The decision has not been taken on this meeting," said a Foreign Ministry spokesman, appearing to contradict an official source who told reporters last Friday that the meeting was set for New York around 22 October.

Reuter

Wu urges ban on Chinese 'slave' products Paris — Harry Wu, the Chinese-American activist who spent 19 years in China's labour camps, yesterday urged France to ban imports of products — including tea and rubber boots — made by prisoners. "Millions of prisoners doing forced labour for 10 to 12 hours a day without pay in 1,000 camps, including 12 in Tibet, allow China to export many goods at unbeatable prices," he said. AP

#### Island hunt for elusive OJ

Casa De Campo — Reporters and television crews flew to this resort in the Dominican Republic seeking O J Simpson, but he was not to be found. The stampede was triggered by a report on Sunday in Listin Diario, the Caribbean country's principal daily newspaper, that Mr Simpson planned to fly in with his girlfriend, the model Paula Barbieri, perhaps to get married.

Reuter

#### Rwanda accuses Mol over fugitives

Kigali — Rwanda's vice-president yesterday accused Kenya's President Daniel arap Moi of harbouring suspects of genocide and doing nothing to end his own country's ethnic problems. Major-General Paul Kagame's comments were the strongest reaction yet to Mr Moi's announcement last week that Kenya would not assist a tribunal investigating last year's genocide in Rwanda, General Kagame said Mr Moi was "not well-placed to solve the problems of Rwanda".

#### Mrs Chirac unvells memorial to artist

Kiev - Bernadette Chirac, wife of the French President Jacques Chirac, visited the Ukrainian city of Odessa yesterday to unveil a plaque commemorating the artist Wassily Kandinsky, a native son.

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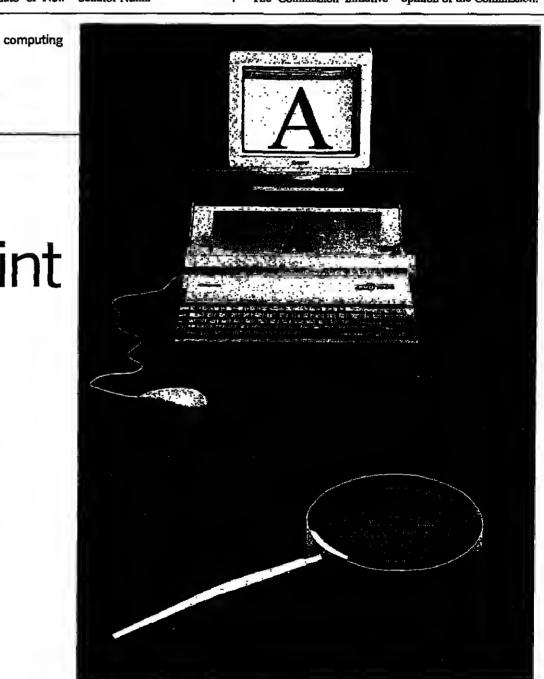
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# international

# 'She knew she was to be beheaded ... we were helpless'

The Philippines embassy in Riyadh hired a lawyer to defend Leonarda Akula. Much good did it do her. She had killed her Syrian employer along with his wife and 18-year-old son in the Saudi coastal town of Dammam. The son, she said, had tried to rape her, hut she confessed to the murder and that was enough for the Islamic court to order her execution.

"We went to see her in the Dammam prison after the verdict and she was often crying or silent," one of the local Philippines embassy staff said. "She seemed very sleepy every time we saw her. She would reply to our questions, but ntherwise she would say nothing. She just kept saying that she was very, very sorry." The diplomat paused in his painful story. "Yes, we made an appeal for clemency through the lawyer we hired, a Yemeni. But they went ahead with the execution. She knew she was going to die—they'd told her that. But she didn't know the time or the date. That was a complete surprise to

Thus on the morning of 7 May 1993, dressed in an abaya gown and a scarf, Leonarda Akula was led from ber cell and driven to the Dammam market place. There she was ordered to kneel hefore a crowd of Saudis – all of them men – where an executioner with a sword tore off her scarf. He then cut off her head.

Sandi heat. When Saudi neighbours smelled the bodies, they called the police; Saudi security men found Akula sitting near the corpses, drinking coffee.

"Later, we were told she had killed two other people," a Philippines source said. "But I ask you – how could this lone woman kill three people on her

"They never reveal the date of the beheading for what they call 'security reasons'," the Philippines diplomat said. The Philippines Labour Secretary, Nieves Confesor – the woman ultimately responsible for all Filipinos working abroad – was by chance in Riyadh on an official visit on the day of Akula's execution. "I felt like going home," she said later.

But of course, she did not. Poor, underdeveloped countries cannot afford to break relations with Sandi Arabia, from where 600,000 Filipino workers – balf of them women working as housemaids—send home millions of dollars in remittances. Leonarda Akula's tragedy—and her fate—went unrecorded outside Saudi Arabia, "There was nothing we could do," the Philippines diplomat said. "We were helpless in this matter."

No one, it seemed, asked what had driven a 35-year-old Filipina housemaid to commit so dreadful a crime. Before her execution, she had told Philippines diplomats that her employer—a Syrian who was regarded locally as a religious



Robert Fisk, Middle East Correspondent, in the second report of a series on women victims of Islamic 'justice', tells the tragedy of Leonarda Akula

did not even bother to reply.

leader - had kept her impris-oned in his house, that she was stability. Although she was hrought up a Christian in the Philippines capital of Manila, never allowed out, that she was not given enough to eat. These the Saudis took her body for seare common enough comcret interment to a Muslim plaints from tens of thousands cemetery in Dammam where of foreign housemaids in Gulf she was huried - according to countries. And Akula said that Wahhahi custom - in a grave without a marker. The Philipthe 18-year-old son tried to pines embassy subsequently wrote to the Saudi Ministry of rape her. She never denied that she had taken a knife to all three of them at night, killing first the alleged would be rapist the Interior, officially requesting the repatriation of her remains to her family. The Saudis

and then his parents.

Saudi authorities claim that she never left the house after the murders; she was apparently too mentally confused to understand what she had done and spent much of her time pouring salt over the corpses in a vain attempt to prevent their decomposition in the fierce Saudi heat. When Saudi neighbours smelled the bodies, they called the police; Saudi security men found Akula sitting near the corpses, drinking coffee,

"Later, we were told she had killed two other people," a ask you - how could this lone woman kill three people on her own, let alone five? This is not possible. Was she taking the hlame for others? Were there accomplices? We shall never know." Philippines government officials admit that Saudi courts do not always condemn to death Filipinos accused of murder. In 1983, they stated that courts had approved 185 out of 280 requests for clemency, though few of these involved the death penalty. In one case, Ms Confesor was later quoted as saying, a sharia court found the accused acted in self-defence. Another found grounds for judging a Filipino defendant insane.

Since Akula's beheading, another eight women have been executed in the Gulf – one of them by firing squad, the rest decapitated – for crimes ranging from murder to drug smuggling. Hundreds have been lashed by male prison officers for alleged sexual misdemeanours and theft. If courts have sometimes shown mercy, they have often demonstrated their ruthlessness.

None of this helped Leonarda Akula, whose own behaviour must surely have required some questions about her mental



Condemned cells: The al-Mabahith al-'Ama compound, where Leonarda Akula was held awaiting execution

# Starving Iraq plans biggest mosque

PATRICK COCKBURN Baghdad

President Saddam Hussein of Iraq plans to start building the largest mosque in the world, with room for 100,000 worshippers, in the heart of Baghdad in a few months' time. Although four million Iraqis are estimated by the UN to be on the verge of famine, the Saddam Grand Mosque will cost an estimated \$250m to \$300m (£160m to £190m).

(£160m to £190m).

The Iraqi leader first thought of the project in 1994, and 10 design teams have almost finished their work. Construction will start at the beginning of next year on a dome 600ft (180m) in diameter. It will rise from the centre of an artificial lake dug on the 500-acre site of the old municipal airport near the railway station in the centre of Baghdad. The area was heavily bombed during the Gulf war.

Iraqi engineers are worried about where they will get the equipment and construction materials in the face of UN sanctions. "We will need pile drivers, excavators, chemical additives for the cement and steel reinforcement bars," said one associated with the scheme.

Despite these difficulties, there is no sign of any slowdown in the work, which Saddam is

backing. A pavilion is being built on site for his use during construction. He reputedly said that he "will be the chief engineer" for the project.

The reasons for building a giant mosque when the country is so short of resources include the government's desire to improve its Islamie credentials and to underscore its belief in its future.

The mosque will consist of a 210ft-high dome, supported on piles going 120ft into the ground. In addition an Islamic university housed in eight towers, each 650ft high, will surround the lake. Although Iraq may lack some of the equipment needed for construction, almost no other projects are being huilt, so all resources can be

concentrated on the mosque.
Iraqi engineers say the only
mosque in the world which
might be considered larger is in
Mecca, but is not covered. Part
of the idea is apparently to show
that despite the embargo introduced in 1990, Iraq can still

carry out great projects.

Madeleine Albright, the US ambassador at the UN, has criticised Iraq for squandering money on building presidential palaces. During the Iran-Iraq war the Iraqi leadership constructed big memorials to show

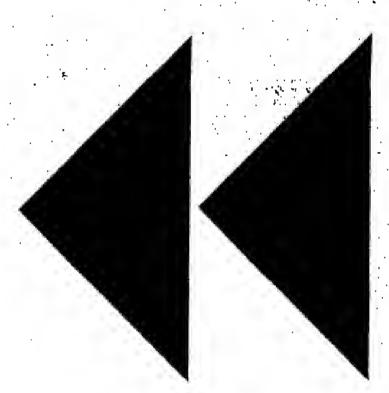


Murder appeal adjourned

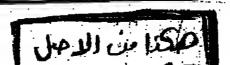
Al-Ain, United Arab Emirates (Reuter) — An Islamic court adjourned an appeal by the condemned Filipina maid Sarah Balabagon, after she repeated her claim that she killed her employer in self-defence.

The three judges, from Mauritania, Saudi Arabia and Sudan, questioned Ms Balabagan about the day she stabbed Almas Mohammed al-Baloushi 34 times. "Sarah said she was defending herself. She told the judges he lured her into his room and when he locked the door and turned off the lights, she knew something was wrong," said her defence lawyer, Salman Lotfi, after the covert adjourned until 30 October.

The judges eleared the court of public and press after Ms Balabagan said she wanted to make a private plea "because it's a moral issue", a Philippines embassy official said. Ms Balabagan was condemned to denth last month for premeditated murder. A court rejected her claim that she acted in self-defence after wresting Baloushi's kuife away during "a rape".



Rewind.



July Balle

# Terrorism fear after US train is derailed

RUPERT CORNVELL Washington

The derailmen of an Amtrak transcootitent train in the Arizona deser yesterday, in which one prson died and more than 100 cre injured, was an act of saborge and possibly
of political two rism, local
solice officialistic.

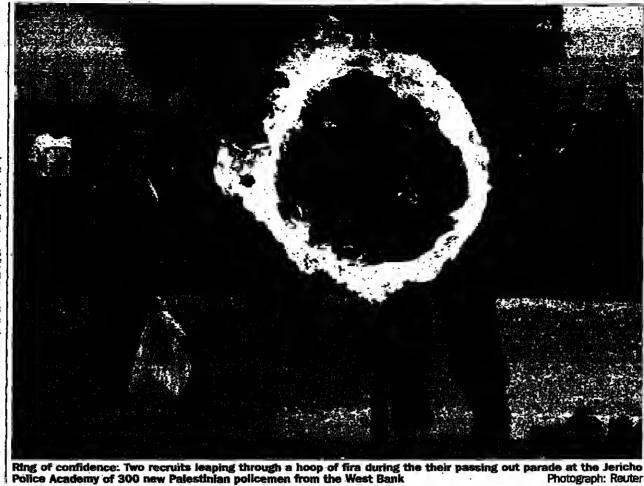
The Sunset United came off he tracks in wil and inaccessible country sout 60 miles south-west of Phoenix at round 1.30am route from Miami to LosAngeles with 248 people about. There was a loud roar andverything was shaking," said or passenger. "It was beginning: tilt and then stopped." In i, eight of the train's 12 carries left the rails.

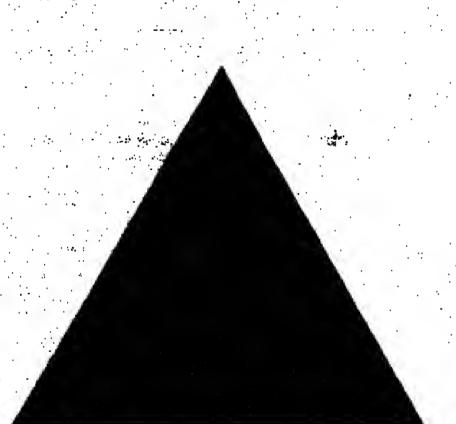
According towestigators, an electric cor was found wrapped aroud one track where the accent happened, along with ritten notes, be in serious condition.

Moments beforehand, the driverhad seen something on the track and tried to halt the train. The evideoce suggested "it was not an accident", said the Maricopa County Sheriff, Joe Arpaio. "The track had been tampered with."

Asked if one of the notes was addressed to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms which carried out the initial raid on the Branch Davidians cult in Waco in 1993 and which appears to have been a target of the Oklahoma City bombing this April, Mr Arpaio replied, You're close.'

Last night, FBI agents were joining the investigation.
Only four-wheel-drive vehicles could reach the spot because of rocky terrain, and the injured were ferried by helicopter to Phoenix, where a shopping mall was turned into an improvised landing site. Of the 100 victims, 12 were said to







BRITAIN'S BEST SELLING PREMIUM HAND PULLED ALE SINCE 1777.

# international

# Turks claim victory in scramble for oil pipeline

HUGH POPE Istanbul

Photograph: Reuter

The first oil from new fields in the Caspian Sea will flow to the West through two pipelines, one backed by Russia and the other by Turkey and the United States, a BP-led consortium of 11 international oil giants de-cided in Azerbaijan yesterday.

The historic compromise left some loose ends, as seems customary in the complex Caspian oil negotiations. The flow of "early oil" will be "simultaneous" in the pipelines when it starts in a year, but a decision on how much will go through each was left to later.

Turkey was elated nevertheless, with television leading news bulletins with announce ments of a victory. Even sober commentators felt that the compromise gave Turkey a foot in the Caucasian door, a chance to show the consortium why it should fulfill its promise to give Turkey the main future oil pipeline down to the Mediterranean. "It is exactly what we were looking for. It couldn't be better," said one of those privy to the negotiations, Turkey's ambassador to London, Ozdem

The Turks have long agitated for various configurations of oil pipelines and other trade routes to link them to Azer- to more supertankers coming baijan and other Turkic states in Central Asia, freed by the collapse of the Soviet Union. But they have been frustrated by geography, Russian blocking tac-tics and centuries of separate cultural development.

Yesterday's compromise was also due to an intervention by President Bill Clinton, who telephoned the Azerbaijani president, Haydar Aliyev, to push for the dual pipeline so-lution. That helped Mr Aliyev to resist pressure from Russia that included a trade embargo and, allegedly, meddling in the

Nagorny Karabakh conflict. Russia's blunt suppression of Chechen independence last December - perhaps partly to secure the Russian oil pipeline route through Grozny-helped persuade the US of the need to diversify away from full-scale support for Moscow.

Even so, both pipeline routes run through geopolitical mine-fields. The Chechens are threatening to blow up the Russian northern route to the port of Novorossisk. The southerly

route favoured by Turkey, which requires substantial new pipelaying, goes through unstable Georgia to Batumi, close to Turkey's Black Sea border.

To attract the consortium,

Turkey offered to finance the upgrading of the Georgian line and to buy all the oil delivered through it. Turkish contractors are also well placed to start construction quickly, even if Geor-gia placates Russia with a share in that pipeline too.

"We should not give up. It de-pends on Turkish determina-tion. We should try to make oil run through that line as soon as possible," wrote Ferai Tinc, foreign editor of *Hurriyet*. "We will get the right to say: 'Look, we we stood by our word. Now you stand by yours, and put the main pipeline through to Cey-han [a Turkish oil terminal on

the Mediterranean]."
Turkish suspicions of ill intent led one newspaper to brand the BP pipeline consortium chief as "Lawrence of the Caucasus", but Mr Sanberk and a consortium spokesman in Baku stressed that there was now no difference of opinion between Turkey and BP.

Turkey is not just after oil transit fees and regional influence. There is genuine resentment that the 10 million people of Istanbul should be exposed through the Bosphorus. Oil from the Azerbaijan consortium could add several big tankers a day. The proposed Ceyhan route would bypass the Black Sea. Russia has proposed a by-pass line through Bulgaria and Greece to the Aegean, but few believe it would be economic.

Even if only a little of the "early oil" passes through the Georgian pipeline, Turkey is confident that other companies prospecting in Azerbaijan may use it. It may also attract interest from oew producers of oil in central Asia, who are having trouble exporting through Russia's creaking system.

The early oil is not expected to exceed 80,000 barrels per day. But the main pipeline will be able to carry up to 700,000 barrels per day, and a final de-cision on its route is due in 1997. The spokesman for the con-sortium in Baku, Einar Bergh, said Turkey was still favoured. "[The consortium] feels that when it comes to the main oil production, the main loading point should be Ceyhan."

# Menem jolted by third place in capital's poll

PHIL DAVISON Latin America Correspondent

President Carlos Menem of Argentina has suffered his worst political setback since he was reelected in May. The centre-left opposition Frepaso alliance won the influential Senate seat for the capital, Buenos Aires, at the weekend.

The overwhelming victory by Frepaso's candidate, Graciela Fernandez Meijide, with more than 50 per cent of the vote to only 21 per cent for Mr Men-em's Peronist candidate, was seen as reflecting disquiet over rampant unemployment and reports of official corruption. The Peronist candidate, Antonio Erman Gonzalez, a former economics and defence minister under Mr Menem, was left a humiliating third behind Jorge Vanossi of the Radicals, who won 22.5 per cent.

This will teach those who said there was no way to get at Menem," said Ms Meijide, a leading human rights cam-paigner. "The people are fed

The vote of discontent in the capital followed a series of provincial riots this summer, notably in Cordoba and San Juan provinces, some by the unemployed but mostly by public sector workers who had not been paid in months. When he was re-elected in

May, Mr Menem pledged to "pulverise unemployment the way we pulverised inflation". But the jobless figure has spiralled to a record 18.6 per cent.

On the recent feast day of St Cayetano, patron saint of work, more than a million people filed through the St Cayetano

church outside Buenos Aires to



Carlos Menem: has not fulfilled jobs pledge

had camped out for a week to get a place in line.

The jobless rate threatens Mr Menem's economic successes of the past five years, bringing the economy to its most sensitive point since it floundered in the wake of last December's Mexican financial crisis.

Uncertainty over the future of the Economy Minister, Domingo Cavallo, architect of much of the recent successes, has also caused jitters among domestic and foreign investors who fear economic instability were he to go. Mr Cavallo caused a political storm in August when he said mafiosi were entrenched in the upper reaches of government and state bodies. Rumours that hardline Peronists would force his dismissal sent the stock market downward and threatened foreign investment until Mr Menem issued a hearty endorsement beseech the saint for jobs. Some of his minister.

### John Cairncross

John Cairneross, the last survivor of the KGB's "Ring of Five", was a testament to misconceived idealism among Britain's intelligentsia in the 1930s and to the futility of MI5's hunt for Britain's Communist traitors.

He was born outside Glasgow in 1913, one of four brothers and four sisters; their father ran an ironmonger's shop while his mother was a primary school teacher. From those inauspicious but radical beginnings, three hrothers became professors, including the noted economist Sir Alec Cairneross. Academia would also have welcomed John Cairneross, whose original research and books became internationally renowned

After leaving Glasgow University in 1933 with a degree in French and German, Cairncross was awarded another degree at the Sorbonne before winning a scholarship to Trinity, Cambridge, where his fluency in languages was less remarked upon than a cantankerous and arrogant manner,

In the political cauldron of that era. Cairneross did not stand out as a political activist or a member of any group although he did join Cambridge's Modern Language Society, an organisation with links to the Communist Party. There, his left-wing sympathies were noted by Anthony Blunt. The KGB's talent-spotter disliked Cairneross as an unsociable, insipid personality, and the sentiment was reciprocated. Cairneross was only approached by the KGB in 1936, after he joined the Foreign Office having topped the entrance

His recruiter was James Klugman, one of Cambridge's was proven in February 1943 most influential Marxists. The when he handed to his Soviet approach was classic. Cairneross contact the original flimsy pawas invited to help the Com- pers of the intercepts, containintern, the international Com- ing the full details of the

munist movement, against Fas-cism. His seething hatred of the British establishment was the impetus to treachery. His earlier failure to join the Communist Party was a bonus. In perfect tradecraft, Klugman did not mention to his new recruit the names of others who were helping the Soviet cause. It was also wise, because Cairncross, hesides disliking Blunt, had met Donald Madean in the FO's Western Department and instantly loathed another of the KGB's Cambridge recruits on account of his fellow Scot'a charm. Until 1951 Cairneross

would believe that he was a soli-

tary agent, unaware of the

KGB's awesome haul.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Cairneross was posted to the Cabinet Office as private secretary to Lord Hankey, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Contrary to later suggestions, Cairneross denied that he enjoyed access to atomic secrets, but he did pass on a mass of top secret cabinet papers recording the Government's political and military attitudes and decisions across the whole spectrum of daily af-fairs. In Hankey's office, he sensed not only the anti-Soviet atmosphere hut also the con-

tinuing pro-German policies

espoused by some government

In 1941. Cairneross was posted to GCHQ, the intercept station at Bletchley Park decoding secret German signals. For the KGB, Cairneross was a goldmine. Unlike other informants. Cairneross could provide pure information about the Soviets' immediate enemy. Although his first chore was to prove the Luftwaffe's order of battle, his value to the Soviets

Wehrmacht's summer offensive along a 1,200km front which would climax at the hattle of Kursk. Initially, the Soviets undertook a series of pre-emptive air strikes but simultaneously used Cairneross's information to develop a new anti-tank shell to peneirate the new, thick German tank armour. In recognition of his critical assistance, Cairneross was awarded the Order of the Red Banner.

In Cairneross's opinion, his revelations did not render him a traitor. He was helping an ally who had been unjustly deprived of life-saving information by a right-wing clique.

By then, the Lubianka had ecome overwhelmed by intelligence supplied by the British traitors. To the KGB it seemed impossible that the famed British intelligence service could allow Cairneress and other officials to carry out suitcases filled with the most precious secrets from government buildings. For a brief hiatus, all of the British material, with the exception of Cairneross's, was distrusted. Then Yuri Modin, a young KGB officer, was tasked to sift all the material and recommend the best five sources, the remainder to be ignored. Modin's administrative chore, selecting Philby, Burgess, Maclean, Blunt and Cairneross,

was the birth of the Ring of Five. In 1944, exhausted by both his work at GCHQ and his double life. Cairneross was posted to MI6, the foreign intelligence service. In Section V, the counter-intelligence section, Cairneross produced under Philby's directive an order of battle of the SS. Later Cairncross would confess that he was unaware of Philby's true loyalties.

At the end of the war, Cairncross was posted to the Treasury. Although Cairncross would later claim that he ceased work-



His information was perfect': Calmcross, the 'Fifth Man'

ing for the KGB, Yuri Modin, who arrived in London in 1948 to care for Cairneross, Burgess and Blunt under cover of press attaché, tells a different story. According to Modin, "Everything flowed through the Treasury and Cairneross's information was perfect." Cairncross, as Modin wrote in his memoirs in 1994, which were

shown to Cairneross prior to publication for approval, "was my favourite of the Five". Modin's only complaint was that Cairneross was "a difficult man who was impolite to the aristocrats in the Civil Service. Why he was given a job in the Civil Service has always baffled

Whitehall's displeasure with

Cairneross was balanced by Modin's enthusiasm and, with Moscow's approval, the official was given money by the KGB to buy a car and later, in 1951, more money as a wedding pre-sent. More to the point, Modin was infuriated by Cairncross's failure to meet punctually and work a microfilm camera. The fumbling spy compensated by providing a complete collection of papers for the structure, financing and composition of

Nato - even before it was cre-

ated. But, in that same year,

Cameross was not forewarned

by his friends of the disaster which disrupted his life. After nearly two years' investigation MI5, Britain's counter-intelligence service, had, under the supervision of Dick White, identified Maclean as a Soviet spy. Just before Maclean's arrest, Modin had organised his escape to Moscow, but the plan misfired.

Burgess had been asked to es-cort Maclean to Switzerland and return to London. Instead, he continued to Moscow. When Maclean's disappearance was discovered on 28 May 1951, White froze with disbelief and his condition worsened when the unsuspected Burgess was identified as Maclean's travelling companion. With the help of the still unsuspected Blunt, MI5 entered Burgess's flat and seized a guitar case full of letters. Among them was a secret Foreign Office paper with a brief, unsigned handwritten note attached. Eventually the handwriting was identified as

Up to that point, Cairneross would claim to be a friend of Burgess but tinaware of his true loyaltics. That opinion was supported by Modin. The KGB's compartmentalisation was so successful that Burgess, working in the Foreign Office, had persuaded Cairneross to provide him with secret papers on the grounds that the normal Whitehall channels were too

Carrieross was placed under surveillance. In an operation masterminded by Anthony Simkins, Cairneross was followed through London to Ealing Common Underground station. Clearly waiting for someone, the official stood smoking and then departed. Modin had hovered nearby and departed after noticing three MI5 watchers. Back at MI5's headquarters, Simkins read the report and exclaimed, "He's a non-smoker! He was smoking to warn his Soviet contact."

If Sinkins and White had stepped advoitly, the history of the Cambridge Ring and the subsequent "molehunt" would have terminated happily. Instead, before summoning Cairneross for an interview, the MIS officers failed to gath-er the evidence which Bernard Hill, MI5's lawyer, firmly stipulated as necessary for a prosecution. In the interim days, Cairneross met Modin and was briefed about his behaviour in the inevitable interrogation. "I told him to admit his Communist sympathies and an innocent friendship with Burgess."
Modin would later explain, "and deny any link with espi-onage." In the event, the intelligent Cairneress easily outsmarted Simkins and achieved practically the same

success in a second interview with William Skardon, MI5's professional but flawed interrogator. After making a limited confession of carelessness with official papers, he resigned from the Civil Service. Without a confession, the Government was helpless.

Caimcross was also penniless and unemployed. Eventually, with some money received from the faithful Modin, Cairneross moved to academic life at North Western University in Chicago. October 1995.

miler during the 1993 season.

ambition of any owner in win-

Oppenheimer achieved the

Gradually, the unclosed traitor developed the markable skills which wouldestablish him as an expert in Miliere and Pascal, as an authory of the Romance languages, he author of a standard work or polyguny and as a minurpoct.

That pleasart life cravinat ed in 1964 with the brival of Arthur Martin, 415's post outstanding investigative efficer. In the aftermath & Phiny's defection to Mosew, Mirtin Bad reopened the its to sunt for the Fourth and ifth Man. To Martin's surpre. Carneross made a full colession. Continuing to Washigton, Martin received, with filter surprise, a denunciation which would lead to Blum's infession.

By then, Cracross had moved to become an economics expect for the United Nations' Food an Agricultural Organisation in pract, working both at headquairs and in the Third World. All it was in Rome that his seet was finally unravelled. December 1979, Barrie Peisse, a jour-nalist, having travel for weeks through official is, conclud-ed that Cairners as the Fifth Man and knockepn the traitor's door. Cairnoss's confession was front-pe news. His status was confured 10 years later by Oleg Gorevsky, the KGB defector.

By then Cairners had, after a one-year improment in Rome on currendcharges. moved to France, rsued by other journalists, heleided to write his own mems. These he completed a shortime ago and are due to be prished in spring 1996. Written a dilferent era to Philby hey are said to contain confessions of a train

John Caimenoss, linguished spy: born 1913; wice marri died 8

five-year-old in th 1989

Lockinge Stakes at Neury.

elected to the Jockey up in

1971, shared his racing irrests

with his son Anthony, walso became a director of Delias.

They had about 20 ood

mares at Hascombe, if al-

Oppenheimer, wh was

#### **Patric Walker**

From his bedroom window in the Greek village of Lindos, Patric Walker could see the Temple of Athene on the Acropolis of Rhodes. It was a fitting view for the man hailed as the world's greatest astrologer, whose columns have been essential reading for the past 30 years for millions of devoted followers in almost every

country of the globe. Born on 25 September 1931 in Hackensack, New Jersey. Walker was the third of four children of Yorkshire parents who had emigrated in the 1920s. The family returned to Whitby when Walker was four but his childhood was scarred by the death of his mother when he was seven, an event which convinced him that "nothing could ever happen to me in life that would be greater than that

He attended a private Catholic school, was posted to India and Pakistan with the RAF during national service and moved to London to learn accountancy in the late 1950s. Before discovering astrology he attempted various other careers including launching a club in London and becoming a

minor property developer. His path to astrological enlightenment began in 1960 when he happened, at an elegant London dinner party, to sit next to an American astrologer, Helene Hoskins, later to become the legendary "Celeste"

Walker: astrology

at Harpers and Queen. She chose him to be her sole disciple and, over the next six years, taught him everything she knew about astrology.

When the avant-garde glossy magazine Nova, wanted an astrologer when it was launched in the mid-1960s Hoskins suggested Walker. She was later to confide to a mutual acquaintance, "I knew Patric would he good, hut not this good." He went on to take over the Celeste column in 1974, then worked for the Mirror magazine hefore moving on in 1976 to Associated Newspapers, where he wrote for the Evening Standard and the

Mail on Sunday. He discovered Lindos on a brief visit to the island of Rhodes in 1979, fell in love with it on sight and knew "instantly that it was where I wanted to live for the rest of my life". His days

would begin writing his columns by hand under the orange tree in the cohbled courtyard of his picturesque but modest rented villa. He always denied being in possession of any special cosmic ceptive and intuitive skills as an skiing in Kitzbuhl, in Austria. interpreter of the astrological equations meant that he was unrivalled in the world of media astrology.

Shrugging off the psychic powers which many believed him to possess, he once told me: "Even if one has them, I don't think it's something one should be aware of. Whatever these personal gifts are, they are not to be exploited or boasted

"If you honestly believe that your existence on this planet is valid and that you are born at a given moment in time, then astrology seems to me to be a sort of accurate indicator - not of how your life is planned out for you but of the framework within which you are horn which encompasses your parents, their background, what you're likely to inherit in the way of ideals, principles and knowledge, all the things that make

a human being." He was never able to draw up his own horoscope, being unaware of his precise time of

A large, silver-haired, handsome man, he possessed the acclaimed Libran charm and love

started at 5.30am, when he of life. He adored throwing parties and could be outrageously generous. At a recent hirthday party of mine, he insisted on bringing and preparing all the food himself. Earlier this year he took a group of privileges. However, his per- some 20 friends for a week's

> Despite being a friend and confidant to the celebrated and elite, many of whom - such as the Beatles and Elton John - he got to know when they were starting out in the 1960s, he always denied that he was "as trologer to the stars". His favourite saying, borrowed by John Lennon for his final record jacket, after Walker mentioned it to him over breakfast in New York, was "Life is what happens while you're

making other plans." Despite his insistence that he was but a skilled interpreter of an ancient art, there is a telling incident which happened to him on a visit to the ancient Oracle at Delphi - once the sanctuary and oracle of Apollo with some friends. Unable to find the precise site of the oracle, they asked a local man, who simply pointed at Walker. It was something which even the world's greatest astrologer was

unable to explain satisfactorily. Sally Brompton

Patric William Walker, astrologer. born Hackensack, New Jersey 25 September 1931; died London 8

### Sir Philip Oppenheimer

During a time when racing in Britain has become increasingly dominated by hugely wealthy owners from abroad, one of the most successful home-based owner-breeders in the last two decades has been Philip

His famous black and white halved colours have been carried with distinction at the highest level, with horses like the 1982 1,000 Guineas winner On the House and the 1987 Derby runner-up Most Welcome, both of which he bred.

But Oppenheimer's contribution to racing ended not just with his own horses. He played a significant part in the advancement of sponsorship, without which the sport would struggle to survive today.

His family's diamond company De Beers had a huge effect on racing with its long-standing sponsorship of the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot, among the top races in the world. That sponsorship started in 1972, and Philip Oppenheimer won his "own" race in 1978 with the victory of Ile de Bourbon, in which he owned a share. The colt also won the Coronation Cup a year later as

a four-year-old. Educated at Harrow and Cambridge, where he was a boxing hlue, Oppenheimer was a member of the famous Anglo-South African diamond family. He joined the company in 1934, starting in the Central Selling Organisation, learning the intricacies of sorting and valuing rough diamonds, first in London, then in Antwerp. He served on the board of De

Been from 1956 and as chair-man of sue of its branches, the Diamond Trading Company, from 1975, during a particularly difficult time for the company, and it is to his credit that it was not irreparably tarnished by association with apartheid.

Despite having briefly ridden as an amateur rider, Oppenheimer did not start to own horses until his late forties. His first winner was Little Redskin

Six years later he made a significant purchase, the Hascombe Stud in Newmarket, which he merged with his own Valiant Stud, named after his children Valerie and Anthony. It was from here that most of his top winners were bred.

Many of them descend from one of his first brood mare purchases, Stop Your Tickling. She produced Miba, who won two top races for fillies in 1965, the Princess Elizabeth and Pretty Polly Stakes. She in turn was dam of African Dancer, third to Pawneese in the 1976 Oaks. African Dancer produced the good handicapper On Show, herself dam of the leading juvenile Welney, and

his half-sister Inchmurrin.

winner of the Child Stakes and

dam of Inchinor, a leading

ning a Classic, the 1982 1,000 Guineas, with On the House, which was also third in the Irish equivalent and beat the colts and the older generation in the Sussex Stakes at Goodwood. At the same Goodwood meeting, another Oppenheimer filly, Dancing Rocks, beat that

year's Oaks winner Time

Charter in the Nassatı Stakes. When Oppenheimer did buy racehorses, rather than breed his own, the purchases were often shrewd. One example was the Derby runner-up Most Wel-

come, whose form had tapered off by the time Oppenheimer bought him in 1988. He went on to be placed in the Turf Classic at Belmont Park, one of America's top turf races, and beat a field of outstanding milers as a



produce, some were at as yearlings and some afteneir racing careers. He was formate that neither Pelerin ndOn the House fetched thereserves when offered for blic auction as yearlings, asoth went on to great success. Pelerin was fourth in theirby in 1980 and won sever up

races as a four-year-old in \$1.

One of his potentially belillies. Sally Rous, was killdin November 1990 on a ren flight from New York when had finished second in the Elweiser Breeders' Cup. The was more bad luck five mores later when the promising et. Welney, died after fracturings pelvis on the gallops.

Richard Griffis

Philip Jack Oppenheimer, d. mond dealer and racehorse on er: born London 29 Octob 1916; Director, De Beers Co solidated Mines and De Be Centenary AG 1956-95; chair man, Diamond Trading Con pany 1975-95; Kt 1970; marrie 1935 Pameia Fenn Studing (or son, one daughter): died Lond 8 October 1995.

#### Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

DEATHS

BAINES: On 8 October 1995, Frederick Harry, artist, in his 85th year. Dearly loved husband of Pauline Creenation Friday 13 October, at 2.30pm, Golders Green Crematonium. If desired, can flowers only to HJ. Bent & Company. Aberdeen Place, London NW8.

GRAY: On Saturday 7 October 1995, Pe-JRAY: On Saturday 7 October 1995, Peter, passed away at Warings Green Wharf. Much lowed, he will be sadly missed by Jackie. Rachel. Louise, Fletcher and all who knew him. The fluored is to take place on Friday 13 October. Service at St Peter's Charch, Caversham, at Jum, followed by committal at the Reading Crematorium for 1.30pm. All enquiries and floral tributes or, if desired, donations in lieu of flowers to the British Heart Foundation (chemics only please) che Codation (cheques only please) c/o Co-operative Funeral Service, 75-81 Southampton Street, Reading, Tele-phone 01734 874473.

KHUNER: On 6 October 1995, peacefully in his sleep, Hans, beloved hus-band of the late Peggy, father of Anne, grandfather of Sally, Richard and John, great-grandfather of Joel, James, Benjamin, Joseph. Alexander and Luke, Functal at Golders Green Crematorium (West Chapel), Friday
13 October at 11am. Family flowers
only please, but donasions if desired
to the Starlight Foundation, co Leverton and Sons Ltd, 212 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1BD (0171-387

Aumonnopuents for Gazette BIKTHS, MAR-RIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Mar-riages, Deutita, Memorial services, Wedding staturements, in Memorian) should be sent in writing at the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Consey Wherf, London E14 50L, helphaned to 017-320 2011 or found to 017-293 2010. Charges are \$6.50 a line (VAT extru).

#### Birthdays

Mr Lance Cairns, cricketer, 46; Sir John Cassels, former Director-General, National Economic De-velopment Office, 67; Mr Winston Churchill Mr, 55; Mr Charles Dance, actor, 49; Miss Laura Davies, golfer, 32; Mrs Karlene Davis, Deputy Gen-eral Secretary, Royal College of Midwives, 49; Mr Ted Edgar, show jumper, 60; Miss Fiona Fullerton, actress, 39; Mr David Gascoyne, poet, 79; The Right Rev Alastair Haggart, former Bishop of Edinburgh, 80; Sir Peter Kemp, former civil servant, 61; Lord Kineraig, former senator of the College of Justice in Scotland, 77; College of Justice in Scotland, 77; Professor John Large, aconstics engineer, 65; Mr Charles Madge, author and sociologist, 83; Mr Daniel Massey, actor, 62; Professor Howard Newby, Vice-Chancellor, University of Southampton, 48; Mr Nicholas Parsons, broadcaster, 67; The Right Rev Kenneth Pillar, former Soffrance Distance of Southampton, 71; Marchand Change College (1988) gan Bishop of Hertford, 71; Mr Harold Pinter, playwright, 65; Dr Bri-an Smith, Principal, University of Wales, College of Cardiff, 62; The Earl of Stockton, publisher, 52; Mr Chris Tarrant, broadcaster, 49; Mr Frank H. Taylor, former MP and chartered accountant, 88; Mr of Surrey, 73, Mr Midge Ure, rock singer, 42; Mr Ben Vereen, actor, 49; Mr Willard White, baritone, 49.

#### Anniversaries

Births: Jean-Antoine Wattean, painter, 1684; Giuseppe Fortunio Francesco Verdi, composer, 1813, Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger, fauner and Boer statesman, 1825; Isabella II. Queen of Spain, 1830; William Richard Morris, first Viscount Nuffield, 1877; Helen Hayes (Helen Hayes Brown), stage and

cometti, scuiptor, 1901; Thelonious Sphere Monk, pianist and pioneer of "bop", 1918. Deaths: Fra Flippo Lip-pi, painter, 1469; Ugo (Niccolo) Foscolo, poet, 1827; Katherine Mayo, of Man", 1pm. social reformer and author, 1940; Edith Piaf (Edith Giovanna Gassion), singer, 1963; Eddie (Edward Israel Iskowitz) Cantor, emertainer and actor, 1964; Sir Ralph David Richard-son, actor, 1983; Yul Brynner (Youl Bryner), actor, 1985; Thi Brynner (10th Bryner), actor, 1985; George Orson Welles, actor and producer, 1985. On this day: the Saracens were defeated by the Franks under Charles Martel at the Battle of Tours, 732; the

fourth and present building of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, opened, 1812; rioters burnt down Nottingham Castle over rejection of the Reform Bill, 1831; Henry Morton Stanley met Dr. Livingstone at Ujil, 1871; Sir John Betjeman became Poet Lairreate, 1972. Today is the Feast Day of St Cerbonius, St Daniel, Saints Eulampius and Eulampia, St Francis Borgia, St Gereon, St Maharsapor and St Paulinus of York.

#### Lectures

Victoria and Albert Museum: Alex Buck, "Designs and Objects Inspired by Nature", 2.30pm. British Museum: Renée Friedman,

Petroglyphs and Pebbles: excavations at Hierakonpolis", 1.15pm. National Portrait Gallery. Judith Prendergast, "Lead Kindly Light: the conversion of John Henry Newman to the Roman Catholic Church",

Highgata Literary and Scientific Institution, London N6: Martin Raff, Why Have So Many of Our Cells to Kill Themselves So That We Can Live? 7,745pm. Exeter University: Professor Peter Scott, "Pits, Quarries, Mines and

#### National Gallery: Nicholas Penny, "Myths and Fables (ii): Piero di Cosmo, Landscape and the Nature

Luncheons

October 1995.

English-Speaking Union Mr Martin Bell, Foreign Affairs Correspondent, BBC Television, spoke about his new book In Harms' Way - Reflections of a War Zone Thug at a literary function held yesterday by the English-Speaking Union, at Dartmouth House, London WI. Baroness Brigstocke, Chairman, English-Speaking Union, presided.

Royal Over-Seas League

Dr N. Brian Smith, Chairman, BAA, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Royal Over-Seas League's Discussion Circle held yesterday evening at Over-Seas House, St James's, London SWI. His subject was "Does Britain Need Runways, Terminals or Motorwsys?" Mr Tom Lansley presided.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

BOYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Princess Buyal, Patron, National Audistic Society, Insurches the NAS / Development Trust fund-raising appeal for the new school at Robert Ogden's House, Stelling Hall, Scietingholl, North Yorkshive, and as Prosident, Steet the Cultilens Fend, strendt at Corporate Membership Reception of Buckinghour Fisica. Prisoners Meisparet presents the Octover Efficient II Corporation Award for Consensing Service to findex at the Royal Academy of Duncing, London SW1. The Duckmes of Glomenster attends a concept for Immediately, in Westminster Abbey, London SW1. The Duck of Kent skits St Duvid's Home for Disabled Scielies, Smitors and Advance. Continens Hill. London SW1. The Duckmes and attends a reception in aid of Cassestifusy Cothodral Education Contine, St Sames's Plane, London SW1. The Duckmes of Education Contine, St Sames's Plane, London SW1. The Duckmes of Education Contine, St Sames's Plane, London SW1. The Duckmes of Education Contine, St Sames's Plane, London SW1. The Duckmes of Education Contine, St Sames's Plane, London SW1. The Duckmes of Education of the Consell of the Education Princess Alexandra, Presidency of the Consell of the Education Princess Alexandra, Presidency of the Consell of the Education Princess Alexandra, Presidency of the Consell of the Education Princess Alexandra, Presidency of the Consell of the Education Princess Alexandra, Presidency of the Consell of the Education Princess Alexandra, Presidency of the Consell of the Education Princess Alexandra, Presidency of Whilifed Knights at the Fire Art Society, London W1.

### Information order despite risk of violence

Coca-Cola Co and another v Gilbey and others; Chancety Division (Mr Justice Lightman); 15 September 1995

The public interest and the interest of a plaintiff whose rights had been infringed in obtaining information from a party to the infringement outweighed the interest of the infringer in avoiding any risk of violence to which he might be exposed by providing the information.

Mr Justice Lightman dismissed an application by the 16th defendant, Periclis Pericleous, also known as Peter Smith, for a discharge of an Anton Piller order requiring him to provide certain information.

The plaintiffs, on discovering a large-scale criminal organisation manufacturing and selling counterfeit Coca-Cola and Schweppes lemonade, commenced proceedings for iniunctions restraining infringement of trademark and passing off and damages. The plaintiff obtained an Anton Piller order against Mr Pericleous requiring him to allow the plaintiffs to search his premises, to deliver up certain items and documents and to give information relating to the whereabouts of items, documents, addresses used by the organisation and the names of those involved.

#### LAW REPORT

10 October 1995 Mr Pericleous complied with

the order save for providing the required information. He applied for a discharge of that part of the order on the grounds that the information would incriminate him in criminal proceedings and his and his family's safety would be at risk because those involved had a propensity towards violence. David Stockill (Glalsyers, Birmingham) for Mr Pericleous; Peter Leaver QC and Michael Tapping (Rouse & Co) for the plaintiffs.

Mr Justice Lightman said that section 72 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 provided that the fact that compliance with an order might expose a person to criminal proceedings for a related offence should not excuse that person from answering or complying with the order if the order was made in proceedings for infringement of trade mark or passing off. The first ground therefore had no substance.

Mr Pericleous applied to give further evidence about the risk of violence in the absence of the plaintiffs and their legal representatives. In adversarial litigation a judge must

ty's evidence if it was at the same time made available to the other party. A judge could not receive or act on evidence which was not then or later to be made available to the other party or the other party's lawyers and experts. That

to the court. Accepting the evidence at face value and taking it as established that there was a real risk of physical violence the question raised was whether the existence of such a risk was a sufficient ground for discharging the order for disclosure. The interest of the plaintiffs in obtaining the information must be balanced against the interest of Mr Pericleous in avoiding the risk of violence to

course was totally objectionable

himself and his family. In any ordinary case where the plaintiff had a pressing need for the information, the existence of the risk of violence against the potential informant should not outweigh the interest of the plaintiff in obtaining the information. The rule of law required that the law should not be deflected from following its

ordinary course. in a case such as the present only receive and act on one par- where the evidence established

that the person possessed of information was a party to the mfringement the fact that his associates lad a propensity towards violence could not exempt him rom the ordinary obligation imposed un such a tortfeasor to provide the information recessary to protect and preserve the interests of the victim\_

The public interest likewise required the same result. In particular there was public interest (1) in the suppression as soon as possibe of the fraud on the public: (2 that torrfeasors should not have the comfort that they can void the obligation to make disclosure by pleading risk of danger to themselves; (3) that men of vi-olence should tot be able by threats to silere those with knowledge of the wrongdoing. and that (4) the vil men of vi olence who ran the organisation should be idmified and promptly and effetively dealt with.

The interest ofhe plaintiff. and the public in the provision of the information burweighed the interest of Mr brickeous in avoiding any risk oviolence to which disclusure right expesse him. The order foldisclosure must be complied wh without

any further delay. Ying Hni TanBarrister The awarding of the 1995 Nobel prizes has gone smoothly, so far. That's just the way they like it in Stockholm, explains Paul Vallely

# No controversy please, we're Swedish

wo down, four to go, and all safe s) far. There was universal accisim yesterday in the scientific worll when the Nobel Prize for Medcine, worth \$1m this year, was wonby twn Americans and a Germanfor their pioneering work on the evelopment of embryos. Warking with the tiny fruit fly, they have discovered how genes control the fornation nf organs - which could have significant implications in understanding the causes of congenial malformations in human Ceers all round then, as there

werdast week when the man known throghnut Ireland as Seamus Famus was awarded the Nnbel Priz for Literature. Today comes the lobel Prize for Economics, with the hysics and chemistry prizes tomerow and the peace prize on Fridy. They will be awarded "to thee who, during the preceding yearshall have conferred the greatest enefit on mankind", to quote fror the will of the man who left the mory for the annual awards, Alfred Benhard Nnbel, the Swedish cheast, engineer, industrialist and padist inventor of dynamite.

he judges at the Royal Swedish Aclemy of Sciences (who judge phaics, chemistry and economics), the Royal Caroline Medico-Chirurgid Institute (physiology or mediin), the Swedish Academy of Letter (literature) and the Norwegian Noel Committee (peace) will be plesed if the next four prove as urontroversial. For this year's prize fomedicine was announced against a orm of controversy in the prize's horeland, where a leading newspoer last month reported that a vious medicine prize had been fied by a pharmaceutical company.

The newspaper, Dagens Nyheter, agged that Rita Levi-Montalcini un in 1986, for her discovery of nive growth factors, because of an aborate campaign by her aployer, the Italian drug firm Elia. It claimed the company develned ties with a key member of the parding body, including giving him small prize and paying for a trip tr his wife. Academy Officials

1984 1986 1991 1992 1989 1990 1993 1989 1988 Nobel Prize Nobel Prize Nobel Prize winners in winners in 1992 1994 physiology. 1988 1990 1988 1986 1984 1984 1988 1987 1993 1994

newspaper, which it claimed had "put together unrelated facts to make a story" and pointing out that the judges' choice was validated by the reaction of the scientific community, whose members warmly

applauded the selection. But though most observers accept the judges' explanation, the affair sparked a debate about the independence of the secretive medicine prize committee. The Internet has been abuzz with all manner of unsubstantiated speculation. Nobel judges, like all top scientists, are increasingly intertwined with industry over research money and support, said one of the more moderate voices, PC Jersild, a Swedish medical ethicist. Medical and pharmaceutical industries provide career paths for scientists and pay for conferences and research at universities,

he said, which "creates a network of interdependence. All of this is rather new. The

Nobel prize has become the ultimate accolade in the sciences precisely because it is almost always awarded to the right people. Of course there are the odd exceptions, as in 1974 when the prize for physics was won by the Cambridge astrophysicist Antony Hewish for his discovery of a new class of stars, pulsars. "Some felt it umfair," says John Maddox, the editor of the prestigious science journal Nature, "because, though Hewish was director of the project, it was a research assistant, Jocelyn Bell, who did the actual work. It has to be said she has behaved with extraordinary composure ever

Then there was the case of Fred Hoyle, acknowledged by many in the

scientific community as having done the key thinking on the atomic nuclear synthesis which takes place in the Sun and other stars. But it was his co-worker William Fowler who won the prize in 1983. "One of the things the Nobel committee does not like is controversy," says Maddox, "and Hoyle had gained a reputation as a hothead for walking out of Cambridge, where he was professor, in a row over an appointment." He also posited the idea that life had arrived on Earth from outer space, which

But these are the exceptions unlike the awards of the Nobel prizes for literature and for peace, which have both been frequently criticised. The difference lies in the nature of the disciplines, which is something the founder of the prizes failed to spot. Nobel himself

Science losers

seemed "imnecessarily nutty".

achieved his reputation in scientific disciplines. In 1865 he invented the hlasting cap, a device for detonating explosives, which was hailed by his peers as the greatest advance in the science of explosives since the discovery of black powder. Two years

later he came up with dynamite. Because science is an exact discipline it is relatively easy to measure success, especially if you want for peer approbation before awarding a prize, which is what the Nobel committees often do - William Fowler waited nearly 30 years for his and Peyton Rous, who discovered a cancer virus in 1903, waited 66 years for his.

The laureates are selected from nominations made by senior figures in each field. Deliberation and voting are secret at all stages, and the judges brook no appeal from the disappointed or the outraged.

ical opportunism. Heaney, some say, gets it now because it is timely in the Irish peace process, just as Nadine Gurdimer got it to mark the death nf apartheid and Wnle Soyinka to bolster democracy in Nigeria. Most controversial have been the long lists of the great who were nut hnnnured - Thnmas Hardy, James Joyce and Graham Greene (blocked, it is said, by one embittered Academician). Set against that is the long list of laureate nonentities whom history has forgotten. And then there are those - like Jean-Paul Sartre and Boris Pasternak - who declined it for political reasons or those whn were instructed by their governments to-refuse it. Hitler forbad atl Germans to accept Nobel prizes from 1937 after the peace prize was awarded to a German pacifist in 1935 - something which the dictator interpreted as an affront to him.

Peace, naturally, is the most tumultuously controversial of all the prizes. Given the nature of conflict, an award to anyone instrumental in bringing about its end is bound to irritate those with vested interests in its preservation. Nowhere is this more so than when the winners have been involved in the fighting themselves.

Bitter laughter greeted the award to the two protagonists in the Vietnam War, Henry Kissinger and the North Vietnamese leader Le Duc Thn. There was nn rejnicing in certain quarters when Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat won it for the start of the Middle East peace process in 1978 or, more recently. when it was shared by Messrs Arafat. Peres and Rabin.

The New Right even objected when it went in 1992 tn the Guatemalan Indian-rights activist Rigoberta Menchu, whose father. mother and brother had been killed while protesting about human-rights abuses by the military.

The award of the literature prize and the nature of peace are someto Seamus Heaney probably means that the peace prize will not go this The prize for literature has been year to Gerry Adams and John dogged by accusations of favouritism - the French, for some reason, won Hume. But you never can tell. it 11 times early on. More recently Everything seems to be going a hit too smoothly so far. there have been allegations of polit-

Literature

#### Science winners



Albert Einstein: did not win it for his most famous research into relativity. Won the physics prize in 1921 for the photoelectric effect, which was considered more important, and more experimental, in those days



William Shockley: American who shared Nobel physics prize in 1956 for his development of the transistor. Afterwards worked on the genetics of race



and ardent opponent of the Big Bang theory who proposed a theory on the formation of atoms within stars. His criticism of the Nobel committee for not giving the prize to a research student of Tony Hewish, who went on to win it, jeopardised his chances of winning

Fred Hoyle: British astronomer



Robert Edwards and Patrick Steptoe (left): oioneered in-vitro fertilisation, culminating in the birth of the first test-tube child, Louise Brown, in 1978. Steptoe has since died and the prize is not awarded posthumously



Robert Shuman: Frenchman who failed to win despite his devotion to setting up the forerunner of the European Union and efforts at post-war Franco German reconciliation

Peace

They can cope with that in the sci-

ences. But bterature and peace are

different creatures altingether.

Nobel's expertise here was only that

of the dilettante - in his youth he

had written poetry in English and

the beginnings of a novel were

found among his papers after his

death. There was something equally

amateurish about his pacifism, which

he seems to have acquired from an

Austrian baroness friend who was

also a novelist mangué - the man

who invented dynamite hoped that

its destructive powers would bring

about an end to wars. Literary worth

thing altogether more subjective.



Leo Toistoy: Russian author who said he was "very glad" not to win the prize. The Academy was, in 1901, too conservative to countenance Tolstoy's avant-garde writing. The prize was to be awarded for idealistic work: Tolstoy didn't fit the bill



Samuel Beckett: Irish writer won in 1969 for his Innovative and inspired writing which, according to the committee, uplifted



Fred Sanger: British biochemist who won chemistry Nobel prize twice: once in 1958 for his determination of the structure of the insulin molecule and as a joint winner in 1980 for the determination of base sequences in nucleic acids



Briton who won physiology or medicine prize in 1945 for his discovery of penicillin. Ha made the initial observations, but Emst Chain and Howard Florey developed the first antibiotic

Sir Alexander Fleming:



Stephen Hawking: the best-known cosmologist in Britain and probably the world. He will probably never receive a Nobel because his work is too theoretical. Is he too famous for a Nobel?



Harry Kroto: Sussex university chemist who discovered a new form of carbon. This molecule is in tha shape of a ball and its existence has opened up a whole new field of chemistry. Kroto could still win it, but time may be running out



**Desmond Tutu:** former Bishop of Johannesburg won in 1983 for improvement of community relations in South Africa



destitute modem man

# Diary

#### VICKY WARD

Presidents of the Oxbridge unions are not usually meek, unambitious types - consider the examples of Messis Heseltine and Hurd and Mesdames Benazir Bhutto and Arianna Stassinopoulos-Huffington. But the current incumbent at Cambridge, one David Branch, a third-year reading Archaeology and Anthropology with "no plans" for a political career, is more andacious than all his predecessors put together. He has arranged for Libya's Colonel Gaddafi to speak at the Union.

On 22 November (assuming he has finished ejecting Libya's Palestinians)
Gaddafi will debate the motion: "This house believes that the West cannot remain as guardian to world affairs." His

adversary is Sir Laurence Martin,
if irector of the Royal Institute of
International Affairs, Branch's plan is to link up Gaddafi via satellite, which will be switched off when we want to have a 'normal' debate among ourselves afterwards."

Should things run smoothly it will be he first time that Gaddafi, whom our government does not deal with, has ever it seen granted a public platform in this. he last moment. Sir Teddy Taylor's affice staff, who helped with the urangement, varn: "One simply does not get a straight 'yes' or 'no' from Jaddafi."

In neasig lan Howarth's article in yesterday's independent, explaining his reasons or switching to Labour, rang alarm xells with the eight former members if the Young Conservatives who lefected to the SDP in 1981. Some of hem think he has copied their tatement. When we resigned Towarth was the director of the Tory Research Department," says one, and, as such, he sat in our meeting with the then party chairman, Lord Thorneycroft, when we had to explain our reasons for resignation."

My source thinks that apart from a cuerally similar use of imagery negativism versus positivism, etc) here is even one direct lift from the 1981 statement. It is the description f Labour as "a new politics of enerosity and inclusiveness, of ealism hat appeals to our better sature" Obviously the party is litterent, but none the less I'm sure



Gaddafi at Oxbridge?

the coincidence will get psychoanalysts producing theories on the longevity of the subconscious like there's no tomorrow.

To the Groucho Chrb for a double celebration hunch; on the one hand to welcome the celebrated hlack American writer Walter Mosley (Clinton's favourite author) to these shores, and on the other to congratulate Augus McKinnon, the

new editor of GQ on his appointment.

McKinnon, 42, is a rather different character from his noisy, ebullient predecessor, the late Michael Vermenien. Attired in his customary tweed jacket, he sipped only now and then from his wine glass, making quiet, intelligent conversation all the while. But there is a sense, none the less, that much of Vermeulen lives on in him - not just because he was Vermeulen's deputy for several years,

but because Vermeulen was instrumental in introducing McKinnon to his new bride - Rowan Pelling. "Since Michael brought Rowan on board GQ as his secretary he always patted himself on the back for our pairing." McKinnon confided. But Vermeulen's patronage turned intn something of a mixed blessing fur the duo. To say their relationship was subjected to intense office scrutiny would be an understatement. When Rowan and I started going out I thought it was my duty to inform Michael," says McKinnon.
"When I'd finished, he looked at me and said 'Angus, that is absolutely fine, but all I really want in know is how many times you've slept with

Last week at the National Gallery at American rendered a new, illuminating verdict on the long-standing debate over Van Eyck's *The* Arnolfini Marriage. (For those who don't know, the picture is nf a man and a woman in 15th century dress, but the woman in the picture has a large bump on her middle: is it the dress or is it pregnancy?) This particular man did not know any of this. So when a gallery guide asked him what he thought the picture represented, he whipped out his book of English idioms. "Seems to me," the American finally enunciated in loud, deep South tones: "there's sure bin some shootin' before the Twelfth."

London's South Bank last week when surrounded by minders, Salman Rushdie arrived unannounced to join in readings by Umberto Eco and Mario Vargas Llosa. As ever, Rushdie stole the show. He marched in just as the compère was starting to introduce Eco and Vargas Llosa and received a huge ovation for several minutes. He responded with lots of regal waving. At the end one could not move for crowds wanting to get him to sign his books. It was, all in all, real pukemaking stuff. But if Eco and Vargas Llosa - the two whom the programme had billed - were annoyed, they did not show it. Indeed Eco went so far as

The unexpected also occurred at

to make a joke on stage. He got up and read incomprehensibly fast in Italian for a good five minutes. He made sure his audience was completely baffled before snapping his book shut with relish and saying



One might imagine that the British gay community would welcome the arrival here of Andrew Sullivan, editor of Washington's political journal, the *New Republic*, and prominent gay thinker. His position in the right-wing establishment means that his new book, Virtually Normal, is likely substantially to widen general awareness of the difficulties faced by homosexuals. But the gay pressure groups are furious that a debate organised by the Guardian launching Sullivan's book is to be held on Wednesday, the same night as a party to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Gay Liberation Movement. Furthermore, Outrage's leader, Peter Tatchell, feels that the panel debating homosexnality is

modern homosexuality. The Guardian replies that it cannot help the date - it is the only one Sullivan could make, and it has added on to its panel Angela Mason of the lobbying group Stonewall. Tatchell and his cronies are still peeved. Over to Suzanne Moore, whn is on the panel: "It would be sensible to include someone from Outrage, she says, "not least because if they are not represented they will create a disturbance on the night ..."

unrepresentative of the issues of



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### \* INDEPENDENT

ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000/0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435/0171-345 2435

EDITOR: Ian Hargreaves DEPUTY EOITOR: Martin Jacques - MANAGING EOITOR: Coin Hughes SECTION TWO EOITOR: Charles Leadbester - SATURDAY EDITOR: David Robson EXECUTIVE NEWS EOITOR: Michael Williams - ASSISTANT EDITOR: Simon Keiner

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### France peers into the blackness

A French "Black Wednesday" appears to be looming. The pressure on the franc and the troubles of the economy as France tries to keep pace with Germany all sound terribly reminiscent of the UK, autumn 1992, just before we tumbled out of the Exchange Rate Mechanism. The financial markets are selling the currency in the belief that its value cannot keep up with the mark. The French central bank has raised interest rates to stop a serious run on the currency. Meanwhile, economists think French policy doesn't add up. Because interest rates are so high, and the currency so overvalued, they argue, the home economy cannot grow and unemployment cannot fall. And the government deficit is too high, not least because of the cost of supporting the jobless.

The British sirens beckon: forget shad-owing the mark, cut interest rates, let the franc float, and just watch while growth increases and unemployment falls, as it has in Britain since Black Wednesday. But devaluation is not an easy option for President Jacques Chirac. The political risks are more severe, and the economic benefits less extreme, than those faced by the unfortunate Norman Lamont in 1992.

Unlike Britain. France is not deep in recession. In fact, growth has been steady at around the European average. High exports undermine the idea that the franc is overvalued, because foreigners are clearly still buying French goods. But the fact remains that French real interest rates, at 5.3 per cent, are considerably higher than those in Germany, the UK, the US and Japan.

The crux of the problem for the French is whether they are prepared to go on bearing the pain. Mr Chirac pledged in his election campaign to make unemployment

Tf Colin Powell's parents had emigrated

from Jamaica to Sonthampton rather

than New York, their son's life would have

been rather less exalted. "I might have

made sergeant major in a modest British

regiment, but not likely British chief of

defence staff," General Powell explains in

This is a depressingly accurate observa-

tion about a country that likes to think of

itself as relatively free of racism. Many

gloated last week at the verdict in the OJ

Simpson trial, citing it as evidence that the

United States in general, and its judicial sys-

tem in particular, is poisoned by racism. This

week, as General Powell visits these shores.

we should take a careful look at ourselves.

cer is a bumble colonel. General Powell,

once the top soldier in the racially divided

United States, was one of several black

generals. It is sobering to consider, as Gen-

eral Powell sets his sights on the US pres-

idency, how unlikely we are to elect a non-

white prime minister. John Major, once

rejected as a bus conductor, is now the pre-

mier. But the doors of power are virtually

If membership of the House of Com-

mons reflected demography, there would

be 35 MPs from ethnic minorities: in fact,

there are just six, none of whom hold min-

isterial position. In the 1992 general elec-

tion, only 22 blacks or Asians were among

more than 2,000 candidates put forward

The picture in areas of life where

would-be politicians win their spurs is no

more encouraging. Recent research at

closed to hlacks and Asians.

by the main parties.

Britain's most senior black or Asian offi-

the "priority of priorities". Currently at 11.4 per cent, it is the biggest worry for the French electorate. Yet sticking with the

mark makes it much harder to create jobs. The alternative for Mr Chirac is not much more palatable. To abandon the mark is seen as surrendering the founding principle of post-war political stabil-ity in Europe - that France and Germany co-operate as equal partners. The first casualty of dropping the hard franc policy would be to hlow away the timetable for European monetary union; in the longer run, French political leaders fear that it would weaken the centre of the European Union in a way that would turn the Continent into a glorified Deutschmark zone.

In the end, though, the French economy will he strong enough to withstand a long-term alliance with Germany only if other reforms to bring down unem-ployment, increase growth and cut the deficit are successful. The structure of the ERM does now allow for greater short-

term flexibility.
President Chirac will be weighing up the political pros and cons. He risks social discontent and anger at home on the one hand, huilding on today's threatened strike by 5 million public sector workers, or a potential European crisis on the other. Damned if be does back the franc, damned if he doesn't, Mr Chirac may he damned most savagely of all if he dithers in the middle. For the financial markets will pursue any sign of doubt about the currency by speculating ever more beavily.

Europe's interest lies in seeing these tensions managed through. It is not the moment to insist upon the monetary

Warwick University found that just 360

out of 23,000 local councillors are black

or Asian (1.6 per cent of the total com-

pared with 6.9 per cent of working age

frequently nurtured, are hardly more wel-

coming, Look at photographs of director

in annual company reports: a sea of white

faces. Journalism, particularly the print

media, remains overwhelmingly white. Fig-

ures from 1994 record no blacks or Asians

among the 95 High Court judges, 29 Lord

Justices or 10 Lords of Appeal. There is no

equivalent of Clarence Thomas, the black

US Supreme Court Justice. Things are

Why is the United States so much bet-

improving, but slowly: 4.6 per cent of bar-

ter than Britain at admitting black peo-

ical power? Beyond the extra numbers -

more than 12 per cent of Americans are

black - there is an important cultural fac-

tor. The US is a land of opportunity:

immigrants can rise to the top in a gen-

eration. It is an open society in which hier-

archy does not obstruct mobility. Britain

is full of barriers to halt the advance of

those beyond the pale: schooling, accent,

background - and the greatest hurdle,

colour - are all used to exclude people

Many people are so accustomed to

these obstacles that they are often not

even conscious of them. Seeing General

Powell astride the world stage is a

reminder of how closed and discrimina-

from the élite.

tory Britain remains.

ple into positions of authority and polit-

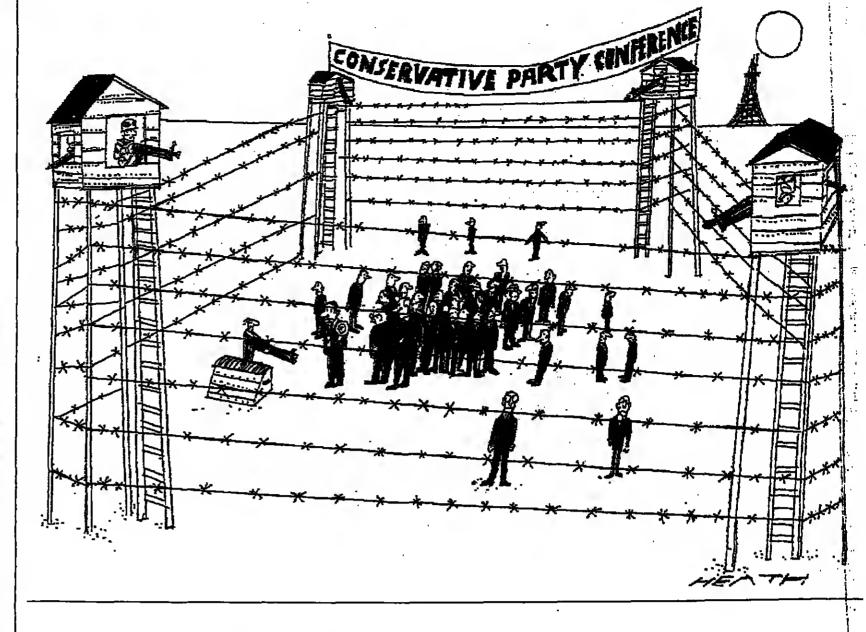
risters are from ethnic minorities.

The professions, where future MPs are

British citizens who are non-white).

Far from the

promised land



#### \*LETTERS TO THE EDITOR \*

#### Good advice and good value from solicitors

From Mr Andrew Lockley Sir. In his letter (9 October) Keith Richards of the Consumers' Association implies, wrongly, that the Law Society's angry response to the Which? article on the quality of solicitors' advice was simply the knee-jerk reaction of the solicitors' trade

The Law Society never disregards rigorous research into the service that solicitors give to their clients. Unfortunately, the Which? research was flawed and its attack on the profession unjustified. The solicitors' profession has as much right to defend itself against unwarranted attack as any other group in

Which? has already been forced to apologise to one firm of solicitors named in the report. Many correct answers to the Which? of the other solicitors we have conacted have stated that Which? misrepresented the advice they gave and the context in which it was given. Also, despite what Mr Richards asserts, in one key area the Which? model advice was incorrect.

Sadly, the Which? article has undermined the previously good relationship between the Law Society and the Consumers' Association. Clearly, this is not good for consumers or the profession. A first step to resolving this situation would be for CA to be more frank about the limita-

tions of its research. After all, no not-too-distant future. Investors organisation is above criticism. Yours sincerely, ANDREW LOCKLEY

Corporate and Regional Affairs Law Society London, WC2

Sir: Further to the letter from Keith Richards, senior lawyer with the Consumers' Association (9 October), I am the managing partner of a large Midlands firm outside Birmingham. My firm has to maintain a full service, satisfactory to our clients, rewarding to our staff and profitable to our partners. I have no problem with knowing that my firm has staff who are perfectly able to give the questions. My problem is how to match the knowledge to the

inquirer at the time of inquiry. My reaction to the Which? article was immediately to thank heaven that my firm was not telephoned, then to photograph the article and call a meeting of the relevant partners to try to set up another quality filter to ensure the recording and cross-checking of advice given (probably free) on the telephone - on top of Fran-chising Standards, LawNet Quality Standards, Law Society Practice Management Standards on

in People and ISO 9000. I and my partners can administer the bulk of standard matters

in a cost-conscious way - conveying houses, divorce petitions, debt collection, housing problems, wills, etc. We can advertise and provide free legal surgeries where we set up a controlled system that can filter out and crosscheck advice and answers. What we have not yet cracked is how to filter the non-standard inquiry from the standard with 100 per

cent success at the first point of

In relatively small communi-

lowest contact.

ties, we have to hold ourselves out to that community, and particularly to our professional colleagues in advisory services such as the Citizens' Advice Bureau, as willing to give an instant answer to a set of facts filtered by the to spot the maverick problem. I suspect that our specialised experience and training can give genuine help to more than 90 per cent of callers. The business skill is in working out how to cover the remaining up to 10 per cent without setting up so many checks and balances that we cease to be profitable. It is a matter of balance and continuous endeavour. Yours endeavouring.

J.S. QUINN Malvern Wells, Worcestershire their way, and sometime in the 9 October

extremely low-paid jobs in Asian

shops, stores and construction

companies. By the time they hear

the result of their applications,

which almost invariably means

rejection and deportation, they

save enough money to go back and start business in their own

If the Government is genui nterested in solving the problem

of illegal immigration, it should

first put its own house in order by

ing with asylum seekers' applica-

tions from two years to two

months. To introduce legislation

which is likely to adversely affect

British Asians far more than asy-

lum seekers would not only be a

retrogressive step in the field of

race relations, but also would

unwittingly "legitimise" racism in

times a little impaired later in the

evening, and is invariably a stress ful and difficult operation.

Licensees could eliminate all

this by simply removing the stools

altogether and, when that is done, to designate their former place as

a drinks ordering area, free from

obstruction. This would cost

nothing at all. The money saved

then gn towards the installation

of the little numbered ticket dis-

pensers used in supermarket del-

icatessen counters, and then we'd

employment.

8 October

Yours faithfully,

Gants Hill Essex

RANDHIR SINGH BAINS

reducing the time-scale of deal-

#### BT finds it easy to promise

From Mr J. R. Colquhoun
Sir. I view the announcement that British Telecom is willing to cable schools, bospitals and educational establishments free of charge with a sad sense of "dėjà vu". In the early 1980s, Aberdeen

was included in the first round of local cable franchises to be awarded. In the franchise was a commitment by BT to cable free all the local educational establishments. On the strength of this, I obtained the agreement of the then managing director of Aberdeen Cable for the establishment of a dedicated local education channel. Material would be supplied by local educational television production houses such as the one I was then heading and the cable channel

would be provided free by Aberdeen Cable. A committee chaired by me higher education institutions, the education authority and the cable company. A few months before the channel was to be launched, BT withdrew from its promise lo cable educational establishments free of charge, having found that the cost of cabling the four schools they had so far reached to be far more expensive than cabling houses, involving, as it did, having

often considerable expanse of playground or playing fields. Was would have been a unite Aberdeen Education Charel foundered even before leaving the harbour, and has never by refloated.

Perhaps we should reme that promises are easy to make harder to carry out when the pa becomes a factor. Yours faithfully,

J. R. COLOUHOUN Aberdeen 5 October

From Mr Tony Attwood Sir. Your claim ("Blair, BT at smoke-filled rooms," 6 October that there are 54,711 schools in the UK has caused shock waves in the educational supply industry. There are, in fact, only 33,0

schools in the UK, of which abo 5,000 have Internet connection ur service "Schools i I suspect British Telecov included playgroups for mun

and toddlers - which, in fact, the takes the total to around 54,000 Is BT really going to supp modems to each and care playgroup? Yours.

TONY ATTWOOD Chairman Hamilton House to duct cables underground across Northampton

#### Missing the point on offensive ads

From Mr Rupert Mostyn
Sir: Advertising agency director
Matthew Lonsdale asks the Advertising Standards Authority to "stand in the corner of the classroom until it has worked out the difference" between the shocking deeds of the serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer and the plain telling of the story in a broadsheet newspaper, in this case an International Fund For Animal Welfare advertisement.

In his Another View column "We have been misinformed," 5 October), he misses the point of the complaints upon which the ASA was asked to adjudicate. The IFAW advertisement in

question, promoting the Wild Mammals (Protection) Bill, jurtaposed the line that convicted Dahmer "graduated" from muti-lating birds and animals with the line that torture of mammais goes on in Britain and opponents of the Bill were somehow comparable to Dahmer.

Upholding both the challenge as to whether Dahmer mutilated animals and the complaint that the perceived comparison was offensive, the ASA reported: The authority understood Dahis mer did not mutilate live animals but examined corpses of an mals killed by traffic. It con-cluded that the use of Dahmwas inappropriate. The author ity considered the irrelevance! the comparison ... shocking at had caused offence. It judged to

advertisers had failed to justif using this approach. That's fair enough, isn't it, fir Lonsdale? People do not think the comparison appropriate, adcomplainants were offended in which case it also seems fair and fitting that the ASA made ageneral criticism of certain page. sure groups misinforming people by exaggerating or stretching the truth, exploiting the trust that the public have ... "in them. Your sincerely, RUPERT MOSTYN British Field Sports Society

London, SE1

#### Crystal gazing From Mr Ken Lewington and

Ms Audrey Hammond Sir: Your feature "Arts 2000; is this another piece in the puzzle?" (3 October) makes reference to a "new" Crystal Palace on London's South Bank. Why on earth put n Crystal Palace there, when Parton's world famous site at Sydenham sits empty, waiting for a developer to install bingo, Burger King, bowling alleys and similar cultural attrac-

tions? This is its likely fate. The best location in London, sitting high above the metropolis to the north and the Weald of Kent and beyond to the south, is begging for something which will do justice to the 21st century and to the astonishing vision of Prince Albert, Sir Henry Cole and Sir Joseph Paxton. Yours faithfully,

KEN LEWINGTON AUDREY HAMMOND London, SEI9

#### Musical accolade

From Mr Keith Spence Sir: Writing about Scamus Heaney ("The delicate density of a genius" 6 October), John Walsh has got file

composers slightly in a twist. It is not Brahms who said "Hats of gentlemen, a genius", and the remark did not refer to Liszt. In any case, by the time Brahms was born in 1833, Liszt (born 1811) was already an acclaimed international virtuoso.

The accolade was written, not spoken, by Schumann about Chopin's variations for piano and orchestra on Mozari's La ci darim la mano, Op2, Henry Pleasants on his selection of Schamann's withings, says that the article madeso Schumann's debut as a writer, and appeared in the Leipzig Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung : 3 December, 1831. Yours sincerely, KEITH SPENCE

Tunbridge Wells, Kent

ANOTHER VIEW Dr Ghazi Algosaibi

#### We will continue to execute

With reference to Mr Robert Fisk's ferocious attack on Saudi Arabia's judicial system in Monday's Independent, it must be stressed that there are no extrajudicial executions in the Kingdom. All death sentences are passed after due process and, in accordance with the Sharia, which for one billion Muslims rep-

resents the sacred word of the Koran. The rise in the number of executions is obviously due to the increase in the number of drug smugglers, the deadliest enemies of the young on whom the nation's hope for mental and physical health and constant advancement in every field are founded.

As for the West's participation in the second Gulf war in 1990, this reflected the West's own concern with its own interests. Let us not play games here.

Talking about western nations, it was in the West that two destructive world wars were initiated, costing humanity more than 50 million lives - not to mention the wounded and the maimed. It was the West that bred both Communism and Nazism. It was the West which invented and used the atomic bomb. And it is this very West that now shudders in shame and agouy every time a murderer or a drug smuggler is executed in Saudi Arabia.

Well, we are not going to oblige the guilt-ridden liberals who use protesting against Islamic justice as a sop to their The writer is Ambassador for Saudi consciences. Nor are we going to allow

our country to be a safe haven for murderers, rapists and those who turn our

children into doomed addicts. In savagely criticising Saudi Arabia's judicial system Mr Fisk should look at the other side of the coin, which is that our country, by being adamant in the application of the law as a deterrent to crime. remains one of the safest in the world: anybody who visits the Kingdom can vouch for this. Only Monday, the case of Mr Barrie Grundy, a British Aerospace engineer working in Saudi Arabia, was reported in the Daily Telegraph and Daily Star. Mr Grundy, back in Britain on holiday, was a victim of a vicious attack at a supermarket. This incident has left him scarred for life. He said that the British are much too lax and that he can walk anywhere in Saudi Arabia and feel much safer

than being in England in broad daylight. Islamic justice bas nothing to be ashamed of. It is stern but it is just Prosecution cases are first referred to the High Sharia Court composed of three judges. They are then passed to the High Court of Appeal consisting of five judges, fol-lowed by referral to the Supreme Judicial

Council, also composed of five judges. It would seem most unusual for 13 judges to want to condemn an innocent person to death.

#### Operations based on sound evidence

From Sir Miles Irving Sir: Your positive reporting of the conference on the scientific basis of health services, which is explor-ing new methods of coping with the tidal wave of new health technologies, is welcome.

However, Liz Hunt's statement that "less than 15 per cent of health service interventions have been proved to be beneficial to patients" ("Routine opera-tions on hit-list," 3 October) is a misinterpretation of Professor David Eddy's statement that less than 15 per cent of interventions are based on scientific evidence. This does not mean that interventions not so proven are ineffective. As a surgeon, I do not need the rigour of a randomised controlled trial to tell me that, unless I stop hleeding from a major blood vessel, the patient

Additionally, Professor Eddy's views bave recently been challenged in a paper by Professo David Sackett and his colleagues published in the Lancet, which demonstrated that around 80 per cent of interventions undertaken in an acute medical ward of dis trict hospitals indeed are based on sound evidence. Yours faithfully, MILES IRVING Director

NHS Health Technology Assessment Programme London, SW1 3 October

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, One Canada Square Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-maik letters@independent.co.nk Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret that we are unable to acknowledge unpublished tetters.

#### Unnecessary Bill on immigration

From Mr Randhir Singh Bains Sir. The Home Secretary's new Asylum and Immigration Bill, which threatens to fine emoloyers of illegal immigrants, is an unnecessary piece of legislation. It appears to be designed not to tackle the problem of illegal immigration, but to bolster the Government's declining popu-

larity in the opinion polis. The pattern of illegal immiration to Britain is well-known. People from the Indian subcontinent enter Britain either as visitors or refugees. On arrival they apply to the Home Office for political asylum on the pretent that they are persecuted in their own counfries. It usually takes 18 months to two years before their applications for political asylum are dealt with. While their applications are being considered, they manage to find

Down with stools From Mr Ron Sonnet Six: Further to your report today about the attempts of police in Cheltenham to identify the

causes of "pub rage" ("Officers sign up for 'drink patrol' in the line of duty," 7 October), in my extensive experience one of the prime causes of aggravation is the on the upkeep of the stools could provision of bar stools, and their use by clients who seem determined to demonstrate territorial rights by extreme reluctance to allow others either to order or to carry drinks away. The latter operation usually requires advanced juggling skills, some-

From Mr Tim Willcocks

RON SONNET Southsea, Hampshire Insured at Lloyd's

all be bappy.

Yours,

had anything to do with the building will be insured, I wonder who, at the end of the day, will Sir. It seems rather ironic that pick up the tab? Lloyd's is considering legal action Yours faithfully, over its rusty building (report, 6 TIM WILLCOCKS October). Given that anyone who Hastings

مكنامن الاعل

# comment

# Must Major drown in dirty blue water?

Alan Howarth and his former leader agree on decency and fairness. But other Tory voices are louder

Death and treachery, let no one say later, said that he had spent three years urging it to "come back to its better its conferences off to a flying start. However tasteless if may be to men-tion this, Lord Home's timely demise gave the Tory leadership a chance to deflect attention from the loss of one of its MPs in Labour. Alec Dnuglas-Home, unlike Alan Howarth, was ever the party servant.

Yet it is the ostracised Howarth who has more to say to the Conservatives now. Home was the courageous under-cog who nearly, very nearly, revived the Tories in time to stop Harold Wilson. In 1963-4 he almost achieved what John Major did for real in 1990-2. But in dmost every other way, he is a politi-cian from another time. "One Nation" Conservatives cannot elaim him. But he post-Thatcher right-wingers are oot lis type of Tory, either; for noe thing, le was far more radical than they on

onstitutional reform.

One word only links the former prime minister with the Howarth sory. It's "deceot". Despite Lord forme's involvement in Munich and hs sharp-elbowed behaviour in fightig for the premiership when Macmil-In reured, Tories here in Blackpool, nilling round the bars, were speaking, oute rightly, of his decency. Major, bo, is often described first as decent. I is a word that matters to the Tories, a to the country as a whole. Yet Alan Fowarth has made the contemporary bries' loss of "decency and fairness" hs central justification.

... He has thrown down a moral challage. He told the Observer that polices aimed at the young unemployed vere "moral garbage". He spoke about amood of harshness in the party and,

()!! -

nature". Only after despairing for one oation Toryism did he throw away a 23,000 majority and many friendships.

Leftish Tury admirers wish he had resigned his seat, too; his party work-ers are understandably furious.

But Alan Howarth has hardly gone for the soft option; he has chosen ostracism and loneliness in the Commons, with only a small chance of returning as a Labour MP, and has been rewarded by having his sanity publicly questioned. Brian Mawhinney has a curiously mirthless smile and the Conservative Party when angry is not a pretty sight. But then, it never has been. The real

question is whether the party has changed or whether Alan Howarth has. After all, it is hard to argue that Major himself is a harsh, punitive, indeceot or immoral politician as compared with Margaret Thatcher, whom Howarth happily supported.
Major is perhaps the single Tory MP who has been as passionate as Howarth himself about the evils of racism. His rhetoric has been as concerned with classlessness, opportunity and deceocy as any Conservative

It was revealing that Major believed that had Howarth discussed his worries "with his friends" he wouldn't have left the party. Major thought of himself, however loosely and vaguely, as one of those political friends, a liberal Tory among other liberal Tories. He must have been genninely shocked.

But Howarth had seen something about the Conservative Party that the Prime Minister - either because he is



Columnist of the Year

There is a struggle going on for the soul of the Tory party

too close to the daily action, or because he chose not to see it - has missed. The party has toughened its rhetoric and sharpened its policies over the past couple of years to an extent that has depressed and even sickened a number of leftish Tory MPs. On crime and punishment, Europe,

welfare and immigration, it has been radicalising itself, importing modish ideas from Washingtoo and seeming readier to hiame the poor than to help them. At its rawest, this could be called the B-special agenda - boot camps, borders and blacks. A shiver ran through politics last week when Michael Howard's odd announcement on immigration policy happened to coincide with hysterical reporting of the OJ Simpson verdict, including a despicable front-page article in the Daily Mail. You didn't have to be a

professor in semiotics to decode it. As the party struggles to find ways to outflank Labour, the attraction of

nasty populism, however carefully cam-outlaged, is intense. No wonder one nation Tories are uneasy. Xenophobia is fashionable. Hysteria about Europe is still spreading in the party and there's a mood of growing intolerance about society's failures, reflected in the attacks by both main parties on beggars. This is not the country at ease with itself the self-board factors. they all hoped for.

In the party, the intellectual force is still with the right. One senses that it is less Major whom Howarth has left than Michael Howard, Peter Lilley, Michael Portillo, John Redwood and the rising Thatcherite tide of 1992 intake MPs and 1997 mtake candidates. He is defecting from them, and from his vision of the Tory party as an urganisation subsiding into brutish nationalism and social coercion. Defectioo is the worst sin at Westminster; but it's hard to avoid the thought that if a few more MPs were a hit less loyal to the manities of party orthodoxy, politics might be more

popular.

What is harder to accept is
Howarth's belief that the Tory left has been finally defeated and that one oatioo Conservatism should oow be laid peacefully to rest alongside Lord Home of the Hirsel.

Though some of the party's most eminent oames oo the centre-left, from Douglas Hurd to Tristan Garel-Jones and Chris Patten, are retiring soon or in exile, the truth is that one natioo Tories are still heavily represented throughout the Government. It is a comment oo the state of the leadership that a leftish Tory has to defect to get a hearing, but eveo so, a party that sports Keo Clarke, Gillian Shephard, Sir George Young, Stephen Dorrell and Alistair Burt can hardly be described as a homogenous clutch of oco-Thatcherites.

There is a struggle going on for the soul of the Conservative Party between harsh populists and agonised Tory reformers; but there always has been. It has been going on for a century and a half, moulding a party that has been intellectually incoherent but electorally triumphant.

Up to now. If the Tories fight a savagely populist election campaign oow, hlaming, punishing and warning, it will end with their moral destruction, as well as their political defeat. There would be dirty blue water between the parties but because Middle Britain prizes decency and fairness even more than the flag, the Conservatives would sink there

What Howarth's defection ought to do for the Prime Minister is to jolt him into intervening in this fight. It is in his interests to do so, for a gap has opeoed between his own precious reputation for decency and his party's image in the country. He would be hurrified to think people suspect him of preparing for ao indecent aod xenophobie campaign; but people do, for quite good reasons.

Howarth's message is simply that Major and the Tory left have lost the country's attention, and that the voice of quiet patriotism and moderation is coming from Labour instead. Defectors are hard people to listen to. But if Howarth's message made a difference to the Tories, if they really thought about what he was saying, he might, even at this late stage, be doing his old party a greater favour than his new one.

to exist, be implies that enormous sav-

But he suggests that detailed leg-islative programmes are not the stuff

of presidential politics - and be may

be right. Americans vote for presidents

they feel comfortable with, people they can imagine inviting into their sit-

ting-rooms. A president is oot a prime

armed forces and also head of gov-

ernment. The three presideots he

served oever quite managed to keep

he is oot, he says, a politician, not yet. Beyond that, he says, he has a visioo

for America which falls into three

parts: "I have a visioo of a compas-

sionate country, in which the wealthy

getting the hang of it as last."

ings should be possible.

### God's mysterious ways at the BBC

People outside the BBC doo't understand how the BBC works," smiles Eric Bosforth, who is Commissioner-General of the BBC. "And now, after all the changes that John Birt has made to the BBC, nobody inside the BBC understands how it works, either. That's good. It's moving us closer and closer to the truly enduring international organisations.
Such as IBM or AT&T?

"Well, I was thinking more of the Catholic ehurch," smiles Bosforth, whose official title at the BBC is Commissioner-General hut who is known to most people as Vicar. "Jesus's message was very simple. That was bad. The Church turned it into very complicated series of reorganisations which very few people understood. That is good. That is why it has survived so loog. There is always a creative tensioo in the Catholic church between the simple message of Jesus and the tortuous thinking of the hierarchy. The same is true in the BBC."

With John Birt playing the part of the Pope? "Something like that," smiles the Vicar. "There is beginning to be a resemblance, don't you think?"

Bosforth smiles a lot. People at the top of the BBC do smile a lot. So do people at the top of the Catholic church. The two kinds of smile are quite similar. In fact, they are identical. It is the smile of someone who knows. Or at least of someone who wants you to think that he knows. And who knows that you doo't know, It's the smile of the doctor who wants you to think he has arrived at a correct hishop for his flock. It is also the smile of the half-witted persoo glimpsed in a crowded

tube train, but that is by the by.
"What you have to remember is that wheo John Birt arrived at the BBC, we were in tremendous financial trouble," smiles Bosforth. "He bad to make economies. Everyooe agreed on that. So we started setting up committees to see who could best be spared. And these committees decided that the people who could best be spared were those people who were out on committees to minister, General Powell says. He is sovereign, bead of state, bead of the decide who could hest be spared. So the decisioo-makers targeted the programme-mak-ers, technicians, people like that. And we started shedding people like that. We made

all four plates spinning, be implies. Reagan and Bush were perhaps economies. This was good." wanting as heads of government. Clinton has found it difficult to be taken But surely the BBC is now in debt again, so much so that seriously as bead of state and soverthere was a great purge of proeign. "But my impression is that he's grammes earlier this year, and nany programmes already com-Isn't this an unusual compliment from a potential political rival? Genmissioned were cancelled? Was that because you had shed the eral Powell laughs with both shoulders: people who made programmes?

"What you have to remem-ber," says the Vicar, with the Tomorrow: a look at 'Mozari's beatifie smile of a man who has

questioo, "is that to begin with John Birt was right. There was a lot of slack. There was fat that needed trimming. There was overmanning. So we made economies, and they were good economies. But once you get in the babit of slimming down, you think that slimming is good for slimming's sake. So it could be said that we shed too many people, and slimmed too far."
You mean, the BBC got a

sort of corporate anorexia?
"You could call it that," smiles Bosforth, with the fixed grin of a man who doesn't like what you say but thinks you may be right. "We got into a situation where we had shed so many technicians and people that we ran short, and we found ourselves hiring the same people on a freelance basis, which of course was much more expensive. So many of the economies we had made turned into saving downturns."

Is "saving downturn" another way of saying that you lost more



MILES KINGTON

"That's right!" says Bosforth. with the beaming smile of a vicar who has just learnt that the Church of England has lost millions of pounds through stupid investments, and that parishes diagnosis. It is the smile of the hishop for his flock. It is also up the shortfall. "We lost more mooey! Instead of being in a better position we were in a worse position! Spot oo!"

So what is the BBC going to do to restore its position? "Well, we have finally located the core of the trouble. It's pro-

grammes. It's programmes that lose mooey. The making of programmes is not cost-effective." So you're going to cut out programmes altogether?

That's a bit utopian, but we're certainly making it more difficult to make programmes. says the Vicar, with the seraphic smile of a child who bas seen a vision. "It's getting barder and harder for producers to under-stand producer choice. It's getting harder and harder for them to book studios. It's getting harder and harder to get any decisions made, so naturally the flow of programmes is slowing down. And that's good, because it's all saving money. All you need, really, is one programme to stay market leader, like Pride and Prejudice or like our next hig one, Mozart's Pupils."

beatifie smile of a man who has oo intentioo of answering the BBC hopes will save its bacon.

Il was to per Colin Powell is not yet running for America's top job – but he is in training. John Lichfield met him

# A soldier with presidential vision



Colin Powell, too nice for a Republican

Generation Why

General Powell. aren't you too nice to be a Republican? The I nice to be a Republican? The question, although borrowed from a comment in his own book, takes the general a little by surprise. He looks

his political pronouncements - pro . The book tour, he says disarmingly, Republican for the 1990s. He-hasn't decided yet, he insists, whether he is a Republican. Or even whether he is running for president. He has taken oon-Republican positions - and some rather more typically conservative ones - because he believes in them. This, the general implies, is also unusual for politicians in the 1990s.

The real point is - he now becomes animated - the real point is that despite these unRepublican positions, he is very popular with American voters, and very popular with Republi-cans. "All those guys, Dole, Gramm, Buchanan, they are all running on issues which are supposedly meat and drink to Repoblican primary voters. OK, then it's up to them to explain why I'm right up there in the polls and the others. Dole apart, are in single fig-

ures. How do they explain that?"
In theory Geoeral Colin Luther
Powell is sticking by his word. He will
not announce a decision oo whether to enter the 1996 presideotial race until next month. But the general is elearly, infectiously, a man on a roll. His book tour of America shattered all records. With 1.4 million copies in print, A Soldier's Way, the story of how a poor black boy from the Bronx became America's top general, may become, the Bible apart, the oon-fic-tion hest-seller of all time.

As the Republican nominee, he would be unarguably devastating. He would blow President Clintoo out of the water (Republican votes plus hlack votes equals oo contest). But before meeting the general in his London hotel room yesterday, I clung to the unfashionable view that he would not run next year; it was not possible for a man with his views, especially a black man, to win the Republican nomination. And to run as an independent and win would be impossible: no one bas achieved it since George Washington.

General Powell, I thought, would ultimately agree on both these points. He would transfer his famous Powell Doctrine from the military to the political sphere: "Only take on clearly defined and achievable objectives and Photograph: Glynn Griffiths attack them with overwhelming force."

Listening to the general yesterday, irritated for a second; but then grins ten by the presidential bug. He will not run as an independent, but he is clearly triumphantly.

It is true, he concedes, that many of inclined to run as a Republican.

The book tour, he says disarming

abortion, pro welfare, pro grun-control, is a dry run for a possible campaign: even, relatively speaking, pro Bill to see whether a man "who, up to now, culy wanted to succeed as a soldier, can work up the same passion about politics". How does be feel so far? "I manage to get through the days. I enjoy myself."

But why? Why does he want to be president? What would a President Powell do? The scores of press clippings on previous Powell interviews are strangely mute on this point. So is the book (often moving hut, equally often, frustratingly bland). In his final chap-

My impression is that Clinton's getting the hang of it at last'

ter, Powell tell us that he wants to rediscover a "sensible centre" in American politics; that "we have to start thinking of America as a family"; that "I would enter because I believed I could do a better jub than the other candidates of solving the nation's problems."

I suggest this is rather vague. General Powell grows a little irritated again. He has laid out policy positions, be says, but they do not create beadlines because they are generally sen-sible. First of all, the general says, he wants to reaffirm America's commitment to capitalist, free-market ecooomics: he wants a country which keeps the government off the backs of

Bul, just to be specific for a moment how would a President Powell square the triangle of reduced taxes (something he supports), increased public investment in education, etc (something he supports), and reducing the US federal budget deficit (something everybody supports). The general says he has already gnne on record that a Powell presidency would challenge the huge untouchables in the US hudget: the nearly 50 per ceot that goes every year un state pensions and health care for the poor and elderly. Although he believes these things should cootinue

are allowed to be wealthy but do not object to helping those less fortunate than themselves. I have a vision of a country which is finally able to face and fight its racial problems. I have a visioo of a country which is willing to lead a world which would be free." The language - with its conscinus recollection of Martin Luther King is interesting. Colin Powell is some-times accused of being a white man's

black man. This is not really fair. Unlike many successful American blacks he does not deny his roots or the sacrifices of others, Martin Luther King included, whn helped same American hlacks to escape oorthern ghettos and southern apartheid. Powell's whole career, as recited in his autobiography, is an effort to prove that a black man could succeed on equal terms in the white world. This is possibly the real explanation for the temptation of Colin Powell: he wants to be not the first black president

hut the first president who happens to be black. His troubles, of course, are only starting. Whatever the polls say now, the Republican primary campaign will be every bit as nasty and bruising as Powell's friends are telling him. There are 13 Powell maxims printed at the eod of his book. I suggest that the most appropriate to his resent dilemma is the fifth: "Be careful what you choose. You may get it."

No, no, the general says, he is sticking with the first: "It aim't as bad as you think. It will look better in the morning."

by Tony Reeve and Steve Way

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CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR, JEREMY WARNER

Pledge to

protect links with

charities

Lkyds Bank is expected tom.

clude special provisions is a takeover of the TSB to protect

the position of charities that we the single largest shareholdes. The TSB Foundations have

5 per cent of the group's can-tal in the form of limited vi-ing shares, which entitle them

to I per cent of pre-tax profis, averaged over three years.

to replace the local charitable

activities of the old Trusee

Savings Banks. They are the only link with the 19th-centry

savings banks, which were anal gamated in the 1970s to fem.

The foundations were semp

PETER RODGERS **Business Editor** 

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Barings bond-holders in court today

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IN BRIEF

The Barings bood-holders will be in court today to argue that

they should be able to resist in court the Serious Fraud Office's

decision to take over their private prosecution of the former Barings futures trader. Nick Leeson. The Serious Fraud Office has

said that it wishes to take the case over and shut it down. The

bond-holders, who lost £100m in the collapse of Barings, argue that Leeson should be tried in the UK rather than Singapore.

Companies entering the domestic gas market will pay one-off

licence fees of up to £3,000 plus an annual sum of up to £4,000

in addition to a fee for each site supplied, according to a

consultative document published by the Government yesterday.

But the proposals favour smaller firms supplying up to 10,000 sites, which will pay a much smaller amount. Tim Eggar, Min-

ister for Industry and Energy, said: that independent suppliers expected to cut £30 off the average bill of £300."

Cahle & Wireless has formed a consortium with Nippoo Tele-

graph and Telephone, NTT Mobile Communications, Hongkong Telecom and Itochu to market the Personal Handyphone Sys-

tem digital cordless telephone worldwide. The group said that

100,000 PHS handsets have been sold in Japan since its launch in July. A new joint company, PHS International, will initially target Asian countries most suited to the technology.

A new supervisory body which would operate independently of the accountancy professinn but include some input from prac-

titioners should he set up to oversee regulation of accountants

says the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants in a

paper published today. Under the plan, which is a development of its idea for an accountancy equivalent of the General Medical Council, the Auditing Practices Board would become a fully

Kenneth Clarke, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, has taken the lead in urging the powerful group of G7 industrial countries that debt relief for the low-income countries is necessary.

Speaking yesterday at the IMF. Mr Clarke said: "I welcome the

growing recognition within the international community that this

is a problem which demands an early solution." The commit-

tee did not agree on a solution yesterday, but decided to spend

National Power has acquired 4.92 per cent of Southern Elec-

tric, one of the largest regional electricity companies. Last week

National launched an agreed £10.10 per share bid for South-

A 32 per cent rise in taxi sales to 2,098 last year has led to more

than doubled profits at Manganese Bronze, the UK's largest man-

ufacturer. The pre-tax figure rose from £2.04m to £4.2m in the

12 months to July and MB is raising the total dividend for last

Taxi sales boost Manganese Bronze

Hamish McRae, page 22

independent organisation reporting to the new body.

Clarke calls for debt relief

six months drawing up debt relief plans

ern, valuing the company at £2.8bn.

National takes Southern stake

year by 25 per cent to 5p, after a final of 3p.

Call for new accounting watchdog

Cable & Wireless boosts Handyphone

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Over-banked Britain: £15bn Lloyds-TSB merger escalates nation-wide battle for market dominance MARKET SUMMARY STOCK MARKETS Merger threatens 20,000 bank jobs 3300.9 3674.6 2.4 20148.8 14485.4 0.8 10911.0 lades at 1500 hours /Now Jones graph at 1330 hours MAIN PRICE CHANGES

> JOHN EISENHAMMER Financial Editor

The battle for size in the fiercely competitive UK retail bank-ing sector escalated sharply vesterday with the announcement of Lloyds' planned merger with the TSB.

The combined group will have over 3,000 branches and a workforce of 85,000, transforming it into the country's higgest retail banking coo-

Banking o	cutbacks
Job losses 19	190-end '95
Barclays	21,000
Lloyds	15,000
Midland	9,000
NatWest	23,000
TSB	9,000
Branch closur	es 1974-94
1974	14,908
1984	14,058
1989	13,131
1994	10,724

glomerate. Insiders warned of ignificant branch closures and job losses to reap the necessary efficiency gains from the Lloyds ISB Group plc, as it will be

The merger calculations are said to be based on an ambitious cost-savings target of £2bn over several years, which would require anual savings in the order of £400m.

The deal will give the six-member executive TSB board a potential £10m in share-option profits and special divideod payments.

As the TSB share price rocketed, the board was showing an immediate £7.4m profit last night. This is based on share options already exercisable, to-gether with the expected proceeds of the special dividend of 680 a share, which will be worth £1.8m to them.

The executives also have share options exercisable from oext month until the end of the

paper gain yesterday of a fur-ther £2.6m. Sir Nicholas Goodison, TSB chairman, stands to collect almost £2m, and Peter Ellwood, the chief executive, is on course for £1.7m.

TSB shares rose 79p to 353p. and Lloyds rose by 21p to 726p. as the sector gave a mixed reaction to the potential competitive threat from a new

banking giant. Sir Brian Pitman, Lloyds' chief executive, has issued dire predictions for some time about the way the UK banking industry must go. Over-capacity has been increasing the pressure for job cuts and consolidation. as the hig retail banks and building societies all crowd on to one another's patch, offering lending, pensions, insurance, and savings and investment products. High street banks have out more than 60,000 jobs in the past five years.

There was little doubt in Sir Brian's mind that size was essential for success. The broadest scope of outlets is needed to feed the increasingly varied range of financial products to customers. In particular, the chance to earn good profits in the mortgage lending business, where margins are under considerable pressure, is linked to achieving big volumes.

The Halifax-Leeds merger, and Abbey National's purchase



Merger windfalls: Sir Brian Pitman (left), and Sir Nicholas Goodison, set to gain £2m

of National & Provincial, point up that others have drawn similar conclusions. Lloyds' takeover of Cheltenham & Gloucester building society this year showed where Sir Bri-

an's ambitions were directed. Yesterday's announcement intensifies the competitive heat on those players in the building society movement, notably the Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester, that aspire to the big financial service league. The driving force behind

Lloyds' strategy is mortgages, which the bank wants to grow into its biggest product. The acquisition of C& G gave Lloyds some 6 per cent of the UK housing loan market; TSB will bring its share up to 9 per ceot, be-hind Halifax-Leeds and Abbey National-N&P. As a means to this end, there

is hardly a better strategic fit for Lloyds than the TSB, which, with only minimal corporate operations, is essentially a retail bank. Its geographical focus is

in the north of England and Scotland, against Lloyds' south-ern bias. Lloyds has a more upmarket image, while TSB is very "studenty" and hive-collar.

Within the merged group, this offers considerable potential for branded marketing, which Sir Brian is known to be much exercised about, with C & G as the main mortgage label, TSB for simple banking products, and Lloyds retaining the mantle of the more sophisticated service and products.

The comparative lack of overlap, and the fact that the merger would make little difference to the highly sensitive small business lending market, are reasons why Lloyds stands more of a chance of escaping an MMC referral of the sort that terminated the ill-fated hid for Midland Bank in 1992.

But the merger still offers considerable scope for efficiency savings. Perhaps as many as 500 of the 3,000 branches will close, and the

90,000 combined workforce

gains exists in the other big areas of fixed costs - the two head offices and investments in IT. By bringing together cheque-clearing, processing and money-transmission mechanisms, Lloyds TSB could find sub-

stantial synergies.

For the TSB, the merger ends a king period of prevari-cation. Too small to make its mark, it had toyed with buying a building society, but never took the final step. However much it cut its costs, its underlying business struggled to gain momentum.

But there is a reward for ef-

fort for Mr Ellwood, TSB's chief executive, who, by landing the crucial job of integrating the dominant retail side of the business, looks well positioned to take over from Sir Brian a.s. the head of Britain's planned banking leviathan.

the banking group eventually floated as the TSB in 1986; The TSB refused to say wan could drop by 20 per cent over would happen to the charitale several years. Equal scope for efficiency activities except that their io-sition would be "fully reflected" in the details of the proposed merger. Lloyds Bank refuseito comment but said that it wa a

> cent of profits to charity, he TSB's charities have receied £17m from the group site flotation, a low figure reflecting the bank's poor performane. For more than 150 yets, the TSB had been no more thr a loose grouping of savigs banks, which, until the Sixtis, did nothing but take depoils from the public and invest thin in government debt. They wee

member of the Percent Cib,

and voluntarily donated 0,5 ict

boards of local trustees and apervised by the Treasury, In 1973, a government committee recommended turning them into full service bunk leading two years later ton merger of the 72 that remaind into 20 banks. By 1983 that

governed by self-perpetuatig

figure was down to four. The TSB's were not owned the government nor by their dpositors - a fact that was etablished after a lengthy legi wrangle eoding in the Lord, which decided that there wer no owners, so all the process of the flotation were kept by the bank. As many had predicted the TSB used its unaccustomed wealth for a splurge of unwis acquisitions, of which the mos spectacularly bad was th £777m purchase of Hill Samue in October 1987.

The bank that liked to say ye became a byword for poor man agement and confused strategy until Peter Ellwood, the nev chief executive, decided to ge back to the basics of retain banking and insurance.



decade, which were showing a Branch lines: up to 500 outlets - like these two run by Lloyds (left) and TSB - may be closed to achieve cost savings:

# Railtrack flotation set for spring

PETER RODGERS and MARY FAGAN

Sir George Young, the transport secretary, is expected to announce tomorrow at the Tory conference that the Railtrack flotation will be in the spring. With Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, likely to confirm on Thursday that the nuclear privatisation is slotted in for summer, the Government appears set on running the two sales in quick succession.

Both advisers and ministers fear that if either of the two controversial privatisations is allowed to slip further it will run dangerously close to the early stages of the election campaign, which is likely to begin in the autumn whatever date is

eventually decided for the poll. Sir George has so far stuck to the formula that the privatisation will be within the lifetime of the present parliament, but officials have been working on a timetable for a sale between February and June for some

months. Railtrack has said it will be ready for privatisation in the new year. However, there is increasing reluctance to put the company on the market until it has completed a second full financial year in March. This indicates April at the earliest for the sale, which is expected to fetch £1.5-£2bn. The City is also likely to want further evidence of progress on the privatisation of British Rail Infrastructure Services, the companies which

contract with Railtrack to maintain the rail network and which are critical to cutting Railtrack's costs.

The government's hopes of privatising a large part of the nuclear industry by next summer have been overshadowed by the problem of fitting the sale in with the Railtrack flotation. Advisers believe they have convinced ministers that the City will be willing to buy both in quick succession.

There is also a view in the City that the £2.5bn nuclear sale could be delayed if the Government decides to refer the takeover bids by National Power and PowerGen to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Both generators have tabled agreed bids for regional electricity distribution and

supply companies. A DTI source said that the effect on nuclear privatisation of a referral would depend on its terms and timing. One possi-bility is that the desire to sell the ouclear company could tip the balance against a reference in spite of political pressure to call the bids in.

The Government has also to agree conditions with the stateowned British Nuclear Fuels to assume stewardship of the the ageing Magnox plants that are to be left out of the sale. John Guinness, chairman of BNFL. has warned that he will refuse to accept the plants unless the government specifies how the hillions of pounds in clean-up liabilities are to be funded.

#### Head of Lucas aerospace resigns

RUSSELL HOTTEN

The managing director of Lu-cas Industries' aerospace operation, Frank Turner, is leaving as part of a restructuring that will scale back its acrosp terests. It is thought Mr Turner was unhappy about heading a smaller division.

Lucas yesterday posted profits of £30.4m after exceptionals. against a loss of £129.7m last time. Excluding exceptional items, profit was £135.8m, against £84.2m last time.

Aerospace, which now ac-counts for about 17 per ceot of the company's £2.6bn turnover, will diminish further with the planned disposal or closure of

its US-based Western Guared Systems division. He is replaced by Ken Maciver, head of braking systems division. Lucas said Mr Turner's departure was not connected to recent US legal ac-

tion involving Western. Lucas annonneed a nex structure of five core areas. hrakes, diesel systems, electronics, after-market sales, and aerospace. George Simpson, chief executive, said: "We have closed the history books on major problems and put in place a simplified husiness structure which will provide a elear focus for our development." The final dividend was maintained at 4.9p, giving an un-ehanged 7p for the year.

#### RTZ establishes £13bn Australian connection

and agencies

RTZ moved yesterday to ce-ment its position as the world's biggest mining group with a £13bn merger with CRA, its Australian associate. Robert Wilson, KTZ chief executive, is to be full-time chairman of the oew group when Sir Derek Birkin leaves the British group

in December 1996. The merger, which will be effective from January if all approvals are received, is to be schieved by establishing a dual listed companies structure, without transferring assets, to create a dual-nationality group similar to Royal Dutch-Shell or Unilever. Sir Derek said: "It further reinforces our competitive advantages at a time when new prospects are opening up world-wide ... " He ruled out any of-

fer for the 51 per cent of shares not held by RTZ. Both companies will retain national identities and separate

shareholders, but management and boards are to be combined, with CRA chief executive Leon Davis becoming chief executive of the combined group.
The new RTZ-CRA will have

assets of £4.5bn, operations spanning the globe and a mar-ket capitalisation of around £13bn. RTZ is the world's largest miner and the major world producer of copper and gold. CRA is a major world producer of iron ore, aluminium and coal, and has significant in-

terests in diamonds and gold. An independent report on the merger will be sent to CRA shareholders in about six weeks. Existing RTZ shareholders will end up with an effective 76.5 per | mally placing 10 senior Gemi-

# Gemina grounded by inquiry

ANDREW GUMBEL.

Italian business leaders yesterday faced an embarrassing setback in their plans to create a giant new industrial conglomerate when share trading in the key holding company, Gemma, was suspended indefinitely following a judicial investigation into its accounting practices.

Gemina, which is controlled mainly by the Agnelli family and the powerful merchant bank Mediobanca, was due to be merged with the Montedison-Ferruzzi group in the next few months. Bigger than anything in Italy apart from Fiat, the company would produce everything from chemicals to ocwspapers.

But the deal looked in serious trouble after magistrates in Milan announced over the weekend that they were forcent interest in the new group. I na executives under invest-

igation. Among the apparent irregularities is an 800bn lire (£300m) "hole" in the accounting figures for the past 18 months at Gemma's publishing arm, Rizzoli. "The company posted a 262bn lire loss for 1994.

Gianni Agnelli, Fiat's chair-man, told journalists: "Opening a formal inquiry does not

Gianni Agnelli: Denounced for high-level machinations

from Gemina offices, and yesterday moved on to the group's two firms of accountants, Arthur Andersen and Coopers and Lybrand. The news came as a bomb-

shell to the Italian business community and made suspension in share trading virtually in-evitable. The Milan bourse regulator, Consob, waited one hour yesterday morning but then pulled Gemina out of the market indefinitely as shares opened nearly 10 per cent down on their closing price on Friday.

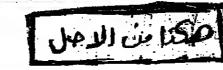
The company, whose other interests include banking, textiles and metals, has been in trouble ever since the merger tional investors questioning the ago.

mean much in itself. We'll have wisdom of fusing two loss-making groups at a time when giant ing groups at a time when giant fashioo, Gemina shares have dropped from 508 lire on I.Sep-tember to less than 700 lire. The timetable for the merger is now almost certain to be postponed.

That in turn would be a seri-

ous dent to the prestige of Mr Agnelli and his very Italian way of doing business. The Gemina-Montedison deal-like so many before if - was worked out behind closed doors among Mr Agnelli's closest friends, notably the 87-year-old honorary chairman of Mediobanea. Enrico Cuccia.

Yesterday Gemina's shareholders' association eried foul for the second time in two months, saying the high-level machinations went against their with Ferruzzi was announced at the beginning of September. interests. They blamed the bourse for failing to suspend With domestie and interna- share trading several weeks



# business



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IS COURSE THINK SO

A trusts

COMMENT

"What emerges is a very different sort of bank from the others. offering everything from traditional retail

banking through insurance and mortgages to Peps and other personal saving plans"

Sir Brian's retail behemoth moves a step closer For Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds Bank, this may be a case of third time lucky. First he was thwarted over Standard Chartered, then stymied on Midland. Eventually there was the consolation prize

of the Cheltenham and Gloucester building society, but for Sir Brian, this was never going to be anything more than an hors doesvee. With the TSB now being garnished for the main course, Sir Brian may be able to end his career on a high note after all. Unlike Midland, this is a deal that doesn't. look like being whipped away from him before he can cat.

On the face of it, the takeover by Lloyds On the face of it, the takeover by Lloyds of another major high street bank involving thousands of job losses, is as clear a case for reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission as you could get. A number of things have changed since Sir Brian's abortive tilt at Midland, however. For a start, the market has become more competitive and fragmented. Furthermore, the Government is now more sympathetic to the case ernment is now more sympathetic to the case for consolidating mergers, even those involving very substantial job losses, than it was. Brewing, defence, media, the utilities, investment banking, there is scarcely a sector that hasn't escaped some kind of action; the Government has tailload its magnetic religious to ernment has tailored its mergers policy to accomodate it.

Though this takeover will make Lloyds into Britain's largest bank in terms of employees, branches and market value, it will not involve the same dominant position

of rationalisation involved is not as radical, nor will the emergent beast be so self-evidently the anti-competitive force that the Midland one would have been TSB is strong in Scotland and the North; Lloyds in the South. The geographical fit is better, and the consequent branch closure programme

less severe.

Even so, Lloyds cannot expect an entirely free ride. The job losses and branch closures are bad enough and while most people in business understand what Sir Brian means when he talks about chronic over-capacity in high street banking, politically it is hard to sell an efficiency driven deal such as this one at a time when banks are enjoying record profits. Sir Brian always argues a powerful case, but you have to wonder whether the idea behind a takeover that transforms Lloyds into Britain's most powerful high street bank is really as much about

serving the customer as is pretended.

But let's give Lloyds the benefit of the doubt. Certainly what emerges is a very different sort of bank from the others, one that begins to resemble the retail financial services giant that Sir Brian dreams of creating, offering everything from traditional retail banking through insurance and mortgages to Peps and other personal saving

It is no coincidence that the TSB too was

in key market segments that went with Mid-land. The banking leviathan that emerges is a rather more acceptable one. The amount of the mortgage market, dramatically dis-Midland was ever likely to be.

tinguishing it from other clearers.

Even the TSB's investment banking operation, Hill Samuel, neatly fits Sir Brian's strategy with its strong bias towards private client business. Who would have guessed that such a disastrous and expensive diversification as Hill Samnel could have ended up suiting anyone's purpose, let alone that of one so fundamentally averse to the risks and culture of investment banking as Sir Brian Pitman?

For shareholders in TSB, this is probably a fate as reasonable as could have been hoped for given the bank's abominable record since privatisation in 1986. TSB was a unique animal, a bank that owned itself, so when it was sold to investors, all the proceeds went into its own coffers.

The result was a squandering of inheritance of almost heroic proportions. Hill Samnel and its ill-fated attempt to expand into the corporate lending market was only the tip of the iceberg. The fact that sharebolders are showing a profit at all is testimony only to the extent of the original pri-

vatisation giveaway.

Despite these failings, the TSB remains fundamentally a sound bank with an information technology setup in credit cards. mation technology setup in credit cards, credit control and telephone banking that Lloyds can usefully apply elsewhere. Assuming Lloyds is allowed to proceed, the TSB

#### Don't blame the gnomes of London

By jacking up interest rates, the Banque de France has hought time for the embattled French franc But it seems highly likely that those shadowy "gnomes of Lon-don" will be back in force before long. It always makes good copy to knock the spec-ulators, as Prime Minister Alain Juppe did over the weekend, but more often than not there is reason to their oefarious activities. The franc is under attack because there is a fundamental clash of objectives at the

heart of economic policy in France.

During the election campaign, Jacques
Chirac made a reduction in unemployment his chief priority. The government is committed to creating 700,000 new jobs by the end of next year. The social problems that led to this pledge are as pressing as ever. Last week, Yves Galland, the industry minister, said that if something were oot done about memployment and poverty, France could face an upheaval similar to the May 1968

Tackling unemployment requires long-term measures to deal with its structural causes - like excessive employer social security costs and a minimum wage that is set too

high, particularly for young people. But in the short-term, the best cure for unemployment is an economy that is rattling

along.

When output was growing at ahout 4 per cent at the end of last year, the jobless count was falling. Now that the economy is growing at about 2.5 per cent, the fall in unem-ployment has stalled. Furthermore, growth is expected to slacken still further in the next few months. With the end of the temporary stimulus of measures introduced by Edouard Balladur, the former prime minister, to help car sales, consumer spending is likely to start falling off once more.

The sharp deceleration in the French economy is mainly because monetary policy is too right. With inflation at 2 per cent, real interest rates are now over 5 per cent - and this in an ecocomy that is only in its second year of recovery.

What the gnomes of London are telling Alain Juppé and Jean-Claude Trichet, the governor of the French central bank, is that hey need to cut interest rates rather than raise them. That easing of monetary policy makes all the more sense in the light of the proposed tightening of fiscal policy as part of the French government's attempts to meet the Maastricht convergence criteria.

Blaming the speculators is like blaming the messenger. Better to read the message, take stock and change policy to one that makes sense. Defending the franc at present

# Inflation pushes sterling into dip

**PAUL WALLACE** Economics Editor

Worse-than-expected inflationary pressures in manufacturing took their toll on the markets yesterday, against a background of political worries generated by the defection of the Tory MP, Alan Howarth. Sterling fell, gilts dropped back and hopes of an early cut in interest rales receded.

At the London close, the trade-weighted index of sterling had fallen from 85.1 to 84.6. The pound ended the day at DM2.2413, 1.5 pfennigs down against the mark compared with Friday. However, against the dollar, the pound rose half a cent to close at \$1.5867.

"Sterling is always vulnerable to politics," said Kit Juckes, currency strategist at NatWest Markets, "Following the defection of Mr Howarth, some people have been nervously redoing the arithmetic on the timing of the next election, with an increased awareness it might come sooner than antic-

ipated."

The City was also taken aback by the fact that the annual rate of inflation in fuels and ma-terials purchased by industry rose from 9.2 to 9.5 per cent. The rise, the first since April, surprised the markets, which

cline to under 8 per cent. Meanwhile, factory gate inflation which had fallen in August to 4.4 per cent rose back again in September to 4.5 per cent.

The markets' reaction was to mark down the price of the December sbort sterling future which indicates expectations of short-term interest rates. By the end of the day's trading, the contract was implying interest rates of 6.71 per cent, a rise of 10 basis points, taking it close to the existing base rate of 6.75 per cent. As recently as Thursday, the markets were anticipating a cut in rates to 6.54 per cent. Gilts also fell sharply on the news, with the December gilt future losing more than half a point on the day.

"There was no scope in these figures for an early cut in interest rates," said John Shepperit; chief economist at Yamaichi International. "They were poor, particularly on the input side, where they were considerably worse than expected. The key question they pose is how far this pressure will be passed down the chain. The longer it persists the higher the risk of some ultimate impact on retail prices."

The monthly increase in input prices in September was a seasonally adjusted 0.9 per cent,

had been expecting a further de-much higher than the 0.2 per cent expected by the City. Back revisions to the data made the release still more disappointing. The monthly increase in input prices was raised from 0.5 to 0.8 per cent for June and from 0.1 per cent to 0.5 per cent in August, taking the annual rate in August up to 9.2 per cent rather

than the 8.9 per cent previous-

ly registered. Despite the jolt to hopes for a sustained downturn in input prices, the increase in prices was not across the board. Instead it was concentrated in two sectors, home-produced manufacturing inputs, particularly animals for slaughter, and crude oil. The exceptional weather over the summer may have played a role in the unexpected rise.



### Tokyo says it knew of losses at Daiwa

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY Tokyo

The escalating Daiwa Bank scandal threatened to draw in the Japanese government yes-terday, after an admission by the finance ministry that it knew of the bank's \$1.1bn (£670m) in bond losses 41 days before they were reported to the US au-

The two top executives of Daiwa announced their resignations yesterday as a gesture of responsibility for the losses run up by a rogue trader at the bank's New York branch. "The bank intends to make a fresh start by improving the management and supervisory systems," said the departing president, Akira Fujita. The chairman, Sumio Abekawa, will also step down in the spring.

But the awkward questions raised by the debacle multiply. On Friday, Daiwa officials admitted that in a 1992 inspectionseparate the bank's bond trading and record-keeping operations the failing that allowed and intecutive vice president, Toshihide Iguchi, to accumulate

Arco lifts

offer price

for Aran

The battle for control of the

Irish oil company, Aran Energy, intensified yesterday as Arco of the US raised its offer to up to £182m and Statoil of Norway

confirmed that it may launch a counter-hid. It also emerged that Arco approached Aran last Friday in the hope of dis-

cussing an agreed takeover, only to be told that the company

was in talks with a potential

Arco's renewed offer com-

pares with an earlier hid of £160m and is below the level ex-

pected by some City analysts. The value of the fresh offer could also fall if Aran's share-

holders approve a deal agreed two weeks ago with Statoil in re-

lation to the Connemara field

Industrial Correspondent

MARY FAGAN

white knight.

Mr Iguchi is in custody on fraud charges, but Daiwa also acknowledged for the first time that several other employees in New York had been involved.

Yesterday, the ministry of fi-nance announced that its on-going investigation had uncovered an earlier, unreported bond loss of \$97m incurred between 1984 and 1994 at the New York hranch of Daiwa Trust Co., the bank's investment trust arm.

Perhaps the most serious of yesterday's revelations concerned the time lag between Daiwa's notification of its loss to the finance ministry and the report to the Federal Reserve. The outgoing president, Mr Akira, received a letter of confession from Mr Iguchi on 24 July, and informed the ministry's banking bureau on 8 August. But it was not until 18 September that the federal authorities were informed. Both US federal law and the state they concealed their failure to banking regulations of New York require that financial institutions report illicit activities

"We wanted to avoid inflict-



Loss of faces: Takashi Kaiho (left) will become president of Daiwa Bank, replacing Akira Fujita (centre). Sumio Abekawa, chairman, (right) has also resigned

nancial system, which was al-ready facing a series of collapses with the Cosmo Credit Corpo-with the Cosmo Credit Corporation in July, and Hyogo Bank Bank, rather than the ministry, and the Kizu Credit Union in which has the obligation to reing damage to the Japanese fi- August," said Mr Abekawa, port the incident".

wa to allow the bank to cover its losses before revealing them

# Markets still sceptical on beleaguered franc

A rise in interest rates of over I per cent by the Banque de France brought respite to the beleaguered French franc. But the foreign exchange markets remained sceptical about the ability and commitment of the French government to sustain a prolonged defence of the franc with higher interest rates.
After falling to 3.53DM in early trading, the franc recovered to 3.51 after the French central bank raised its overnight rate from 6.15 to 7.25 per cent. Three month rates rose to 7.40 per cent from 6.375 per cent. The Bundesbank also pitched in with some verbal support; its president, Hans Tietmeyer, said today's decision from the Bank

currency markets."

yesterday how she deleted doc-

uments stored on his comput-

er by order of the publishers's

NIC CICUTTI

youngest son, Kevin.

strengths of the French economy. Speaking in Washington at the IMF meeting, he said that the outlook for competitiveness, inflation and growth was good, and the government deficit was

on a downward path. However, in London's foreign exchange markets there re-mained big question marks about the sustainability of Frnech economic policy. The Banque de France strategy of raising interest rates was seen as offering only short-term sup-

This is only a bolding measure in the hope the problem goes away," said Kit Juckes, currency strategist at NatWest Markets. "The French economy is in no shape to survive a protracted period of higher interest rates."
"I don't think it will hold the

of France will belp to overcome the recent uncertainties in the line," said Paul Mortimer-Lee, The finance minister, Jean Arthuis, strove to convince the discontinuous and markets. We're in for a fur-

you could see the franc falling

The doubts in the currency markets about the step taken by the Banque de France stem from a widespread belief that the French government has incompatible policy objectives. On the one hand it wants to cut the budget deficit in order to meet the Maastricht convergence criteria for monetary union. On the other hand it wants to reduce unemployment which President Chirac described as his "priority of priorities" in the election cam-

not be able to defend the currency through higher interest rates for long.

to 3.60 or 3.65."

off the west coast of Ireland. Under the Connemara deal, Statoil has six months to decide The trouble is that as the goverment reduces the budget deficit, so it needs to ease monetary policy in order to bolster economic activity and increase iobs. This leads to the conclusion that the central bank will

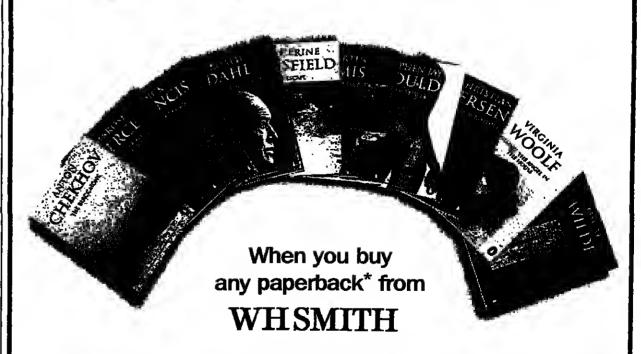
whether to pay millions of pounds for the cost of drilling and testing in the area in return for taking half of the production from the field. Arco said that the arrangement transfers value away from Aran and has tabled an alternative offer of £177m if shareholders agree the deal.

Arco also attacked Aran's de-cision to seek shareholder approval for the Connemara move on 23 October, the day before Arco's offer closes. The US group said: "Aran's decision to select a meeting date of 23 October 1995 is a blatant attempt to frustrate the due process of Arco's offer and, as a consequence, to complicate matters for Aran's shareholders."

Arco is helieved to have increased its offer on the basis of the value of Aran's stake in the Schiehallion field west of Shetland - widely thought to be the main reason for the US group's figure of Ir£77m.

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Liza Payne, the 69th witness to testify at the Old Bailey trial, said that about three weeks Ms Payne added that she had asked Kevin what to do with hid. But Arco's valuation of after Robert Maxwell died at sea Graham Greene, Pene-Ir£55m is still far short of Aran's the back-up system that ran an automatic program overnight. ln 1991 she asked Kevin lope Lively, Spike Milligan, Conan Doyle, Jan Morris, the information because it was Maxwell what to do with the clogging the computer system The renewed offer values Monthly and annual back-up redocuments. He told her to get and slowing it down. Kevin Maxwell, his hrother Aran's shares at np to 69.5p ports were also done. compared with last night's clos-A few days later, when police and investigators from Britain's lan, and former company diing price of 73.5p, an increase rector Larry Trachtenberg, deny of 0.75p on the day. Michael Serious Frand Office requestconspiring to defraud pension-ers by misusing pension fund as-sets to raise bank loans. Whelan, Aran's chairman and ed the information from the founder, said: "There is nothchairman's system, she retrieved ing in this that we can possibly them from back-up tapes, Ms The prosecution is expected begin to recommend. It is simply not adequate." Payne told the court.

rid of them, she alleged. However, questioned by Kevin Maxwell's defence lawyer, Alun Jones QC, she admitted that all the information, including memos and letters, was not destroyed because it was still in the back-up system and on hard copies.



Ms Payne said that as systems She said that she supervised co-ordinator for the chairman's

Data expert told: 'scrap files' office of Maxwell Communications Corporation, she was responsible for maintaining the computer files and back-up system. "I asked Kevin what 1 should do with Robert Maxwell's documents now that the secretaries were gone they were taking up space on the computer. He said I should

delete them, get rid of them,"

to formally close its case when Investment column, page 22 the trial resumes today.

# Harsh realities of national interest

There is a great temptation in the financial markets to wind up expectations ahead of Group of Seveo meetings: the idea that wheo the finance ministers of the world's targest seven ecocomies get together they must emerge with some grand policy initative to tackle the markets' preoccupation of the day. When they don't, the mar-kets duly profess disappointmeot and accuse them of

Sometimes the concerns of the markets prove justified, there is some kind of dramatic movement either in bond or currency markets, and either policies do change, or the markets get so far out of line that a spontaneous reaction takes place. And sometimes the markets have simply got things wrong.

The weekend meeting of G7, ahead of the IMF and World Bank meetings which start today, already fits into this familiar pattern for the markets vesterday were in their usual ill-tempered mood. But to focus oo this seems to me to miss a much bigger and more interesting change which is taking place in the relationship between the governments of developed countries and financial markets. It is a change which has been happening for perhaps a couple of years but it became rather clearer over the weekend.

For a decade at least, governmeots have been aware that they have to frame their economic policies to fit the concerns of the markets. They frequently resent it, witness the comments by the French prime minister Alain Juppé about the "gnomes of London" attacking the French franc, But the disciplines are accepted, maybe re-

luctantly. What has been lacking in the developed world until very recently is the realisation that these externally imposed disciplines, far from being a somewhat unwelcome limit on the democratic freedom of a governmeot, might actually be a positive protection of democracy. Thus, far from resenting the markets' preference for, say, a balanced budget, governmeots ought to welcome it.

Here the attitude of developed countries has lagged behind that of many developing ooes. The great intellectual revolutioo in the developing world over the last ten years is the way governments have seen the liberating effects of access to international capital and investment. Provide reasonably money and physical investment previous borrowings. flows in. A country's economy can be transformed in a decade by such foreign investment. Without it, similar progress would take a generation at least, and might not happeo at

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**ECONOMIC VIEW** 

HAMISH McRAE

than they were a decade ago. The oew IMF World Economic Outlook expects that the developing countries will account for a larger share of the world ecocomy than the developed ones by 2004. But they are also less important in the world of economic ideas, for they have been slower to see the rise in the power of international capital markets as an opportunity, rather than a threat.

They are changing their tune now. This change is encapsulated in a paper published here by the IMF uoder the offputting title of Saving, Investment and Real Interest Rates. It is actually a revolutionary document. For the last year a team

The disciplines of the market may be a protection of

democracy

led by Mervyn King of the Bnak of England, has been analysing why real interest rates are exceptionally high at the moment. This might seem an arcane issue, but it is of enormous practical consequence. For the private sector, high real interest rates are bad enough, for they tend to inhibit investment and thus tend to lead to slower growth. But for the public sector high real interest rates are

a doomsday machine. If real interest rates are 2-3 per ceot, it is possible for governments to cootain the growth of the national debt. The precise mathematics depend on the growth of the economy and the size of the debt, but you can see the general picture. Economics of developed countries grow at 2-3 per cent, and oatiooal debt is typically 50 -100 per ceot of GDP.

So a goverment can match taxes and speoding oo services and rely on growth to cover the interest so that oational debt does not rise as a proportion of GDP. But with real rates at 4 per cent governments have to set aside more and more revenue

So the higher real interest rates, the greater the exteot to which governments have to punish present taxpayers for the sins of previous governments. The arithmetic is made worse still by the ageing of our populations. Not only are we piling large industrial countries are up debts which have to be serviced at higher real interest rates; there will be fewer workers to pay this interest and more pensioners who have claims on public spending

Britain, as it happens, is retatively well placed, partly be-cause the debt to GDP ratio is unusually low (just on 50 per cent) and partly because our demographic profile is less unfavourable than most. Italy and Belgium have debts of more than 125 per cent of GDP and have to run large primary sur-pluses just to stay in the same place. Doomsday looms.

Of course governments have become increasingly aware of these Micawberish problems, but they have never formally confronted them as a group. Last weekend the summit countries, plus Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland accepted this report and by implication its remedy.

The remedy? Only by saving more can countries cut real in-terest rates. "The swiftest, surest and most equitable way to raise oational saving would be to reduce fiscal deficits." Now a report is a report and nothing more. Governments can agree oo it and do precisely the opposite. But here the discipline of the markets kicks in, for if they do ignore fiscal reality, the markets impose "significant penalties in the form of higher interest rates". National self-interest, the report argues, requires the pursuit of sound economic policies.

But not just national self-interest; also equity between generations. The report points out that a government deficit is postpooement of taxes. So the markets, in punishing governments which run deficts, are on the side of the children and the unborn. Far from being an amoral force, imposing an arbitrary discipline which challenges democracy, the market gives a voice to future voters in a way the ballot box cannot. It reinforces democracy.

All this may seem a long way from whether interest rates and share prices will go up or down. But it is the key to future market movements. We are too close to the change in mood amoog governments to be able to see it properly, just as it was impossible in the early 1980s to see the beginning of the conquest of the market ecocomy across two-thirds of the world.

But ooe thing we can see. Tell M. Juppe that French fiscal policy oceds to be tightened because London foreign exchange dealers want it and not much will happen. But if it is in the French national self-interest that is a rather different matter.

#### Warning lowers **Oliver**

**RUSSELL HOTTEN** 

Shares in Oliver Group, the footwear retailer, plunged 25p to 37p yesterday as the company warned that losses would deepen in the secood half.

The company, which blamed poor shoe sales to children returning to school, said there would be no final dividend. Oliver, which reported a £3.1m deficit at the half year, had also passed the interim payout to shareholders. Oliver, which last month ap-

pointed the Olympus Sports chain founder Martin Watts as group managing director, issued a profits warning in June in ad-vance of publication of the interim results on 4 September.

The company said yesterday that trading had deteriorated "rapidly" since the interims.

Oliver said the "crucial back-to-school season had been extremely poor and seriously below last year's achievement and our expectations." The company expected heavy dis-counting and margin pressures to continue throughout the sec-

Dennis Cassidy, the former Boddington's chairman who had nursed Oliver back to health before the recent setbacks, said deterinrating consumer confidence was to blame.

The number of UK stores had been cut to around 340 from 440 two years ago. But under Mr Cassidy, Oliver is starting to expand again, and last year launched a self-service store format called Paris.

In the six mooths to 1 July. Oliver made pre-tax losses of £3.15m, against £1.65m last time, and came despite a rise in turnover from £32.2m to £34.5m.

#### THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by TOM STEVENSON

# Age begins to tell at Wetherspoon

Most people only dream about what Tim Martin, chairman of ID Wetherspoon, has achieved - finding a gap in the market, filling it and making a handsome fortune in the process. Not that his fellow shareholders will begrudge the dropped-out barrister his £40m, 18 per cent stake in the independent pub operator he founded 12 years ago. Since flotation three years ago, their shares, down 7p to 630p yesterday, have quadrupled.

It is a simple concept. Wetherspoon buys arge high street premises - often former banks or car showrooms - gets change-ofuse permission and turns them into clean, attractive pubs with a good range of rel-atively cheap beer. Not surprisingly, the new pubs tend to wipe the floor with the existing dingy boozers in the vicinity and Wetherspoon's expansion has been dogged by spoiling attempts by the big brewers and other vested interests.

Figures for the year to July showed that the remarkable growth of the past few years continues, with pre-tax profits up 50 per cent to £9.7m from a 47 per cent rise in sales to £68.5m. Following last year's rights issue, earnings jumped less, by a third to 24.6p, allowing a 21 per cent hike in the payout to 8p.
Good as the figures were, they were a

fraction below the market's consensus forecast and, reading between the lines, a munher of concerns are emerging. Not massive worries, but when a share is as highly rated as Wetherspoon has become the smallest cracks can unsettle investors.

First, cashflow. Wetherspoon is expanding fast, more than two new pubs a month, and soaking up about £30m a year in the process. Last year free cash flow amounted to just over £10m, leaving a substantial shortfall. Over the oest five years, in addition to existing banking lines, perhaps £50m will be required, so expect another rights issue.

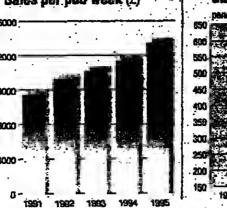
The other main worry is the aging of the group. As the years pass, a greater proportion of the portfolio is accounted for by pubs more than three years old. In that context, like-for-like sales growth of only 3 per cent in the second half of last year, compared with 10 per cent in the first, is not surprising and probably what investors should expect. Growth from now on will only come from adding new sites.

Those are the caveats. They should not detract from projected profits this year of £12.25m and earnings per share of 31p. With that sort of growth, a prospective price/earnings ratio of 20 is probably justifiable, but the best of the run must have already happened.

#### Norwegian eyes are smiling

It is ironic that just as Aran Energy was starting to make some real money, the Irish oil exploration stock has become the target of





a bid. Pre-tax profits have more than doubled to Irac 9m (£6.8m) in the last three years, giving shareholders the prospect of a dividend for the first time in the company's 23-year history. All being well. Aran has promised inproved

vestors Irlp next year. But that is likely to prove academgiven the auction that looks set to break out over Ireland's higgest homegrown oil group. The US company ARCO opened the hidding at 1r60p a share in August, but has now raised that to Ir68p following the revelation on Friday that Statoil, the Norwegian state-owned company, was considering stepping into the fray.

Even before any higher offer, Sta-toil had complicated the hid by taking a 47 per cent stake in Aran's Conoemara field, west of Ireland, in exchange for providing joint venture and a successful exploration pro-

finance. Shareholders will vote oo that deal the day before the bid closes on 24 October, much to the irritation of ARCO, which says that it will only pay Iron a share if the proposal is ap-

As ever with exploration companies like Aran, valuation of the underlying assets will be one of the keys to the outcome of the bid. Given the star-gazing quality of this exercise, each side can quite plausibly rubbish the other's advisers without losing undue credi-

Even so, it is hard oot to agree with ARCO's criticism of Aran's valuation, which at 1r104p a share suggests the undrilled exploration acreage alone is worth Ir32p.

To realise such value depends on a much firmer oil price than at present

	COMPA	HY RESULTS		
	Bernsver £.	Pre-tax E	EP\$ p	Divident p
Firecrest (I)	2.62m (2.67m)	0.11m (0,07m)	0.45 (0.46)	n# (-)
Fine Decor (1)	19.5m (18.8m)	0.41m (1,4m)	2.2 (7.3)	pil (2.7)
Forward Technology (1)	17.5m (15.4m)	0.81m (0.34m)	1.9 (0.8)	1 (0.5)
J D Wetherspoon (F)	88.5m (46.6m)	9.71m (6.48m)	24.6 (18.2)	8 (6.6)
Lacas Industries (F)	· 2.74bn (2.39ba)	30.4m (-130m)	9.5 (6.3)	7 (7)
MP-Date Management (F)	41,4m (40.5m)	1:31m (8.35m)	1.5 (8)	3.576 (5.536)
Manganesa Brown (F)	86.3m (74.6m)	4.20m (2.04m)	15.53 (7.58)	5 (4)
Tay Russes (F)	118m (85,1m)	7.06m (6.23m)	15.9 (15.5)	7 (6.45)
(C) - Classificity (F) - First	(I) - Interior			

#### gramme, oeither of which can be guarinteed by any management.

In the past, Aran shareholders would have been happy to take Iro8p and run, but the company now holds a jewel for which Statod may be prepared to pay

Excluded from acreage west of Shetland in the latest 16th round of licensing. Statoil is known to be keen to get a

piece of the action. Taking over Aran may be the only opportunity it gets and with deep pockets and state backing paving op to 1180p a share would not present too hig a fi-nancial strain. At 73.5p, hold on for fur-

#### Taxi maker's meter runs

In boom times no one thinks twice about hopping in a taxi, but when recession hits it is one of the first business costs tu be squeezed. No surprise then that Manganese Bronze, which makes four fifths of the black taxis sold in the UK, has recovered well since 1992 when collarsing sales led to losses of £2.45m.

The good news continued yesterday when MB reported more than doubled pre-tax profits of £4.2m in the year to uly, up from £2.04m. Production of black cabs is running at 52 a week, up from 44 last year and well over 50 per cent higher than at the hottom of the re-

Although the outlook is clouded a little by political uncertainty, there is no reason to doubt that steady growth should contioue. But MB's future sales are underpinoed anyway by the impending deadline for all taxis to be made accessible by the disabled. The compalapnehed its own wheelchair friendly Pairway eight years ago.

Already second-hand models dating from the late 1984's are worth £2,000 more than noo-accessible vehicles, reflecting the approach of the cut-off point early next century. The lion's share of the replacements are almost certain to come from MB.

Meanwhile, profits are growing in the rest of the business. Taxis remain the backbone of the group, raising their contribution 28 per ceot to £4.12m last year. but the automotive components operation saw its profits more than triple to £829,000. Further elimination of lossmakers should see further recovery.

The group remains heavily exposed to the yen, the currency in which it buys the engines for its cabs, but recently the trend has been running in MB's favour. Profits of £5.2m this year would put the shares, up 5p at 192p yesterday, on a prospective multiple of nine. Reasonable value, although the market is thin, with 44 per coot of the equity to family hands.

#### Country Casuals faces hostile Anglian Group's two bid from former chairman

DAVID HELLIER

Country Casuals, the ladies' fashion wear group, yesterday received a oear-£27m hostile takeover bid from its former chairman and chief executive, Mr Shannoo is making the

bid through a company called Ciro Holdings, principally a jewellery group, which he hought out of receivership last

The bid is being financed by means of subscriptions for shares in Ciro by Gartmore, Causeway and by another com-pany controlled by Mr Shannon's charitable and family trusts, as well as through bank credit facilities of approximately £17.5m to he provided by So-

Shares in Country Casuals, which traded at 115p before an

announcement last week that it had received a bid approach, moved up a further 6p to 138p yesterday, just 2p below the 140p-a-share hid price.

Mr Shannoo owns 18.8 per cent of Country Casuals' shares and he has already gained irrevocable acceptance from the group's oext largest shareholder, Phillips and Drew Fund Management, in regard to its holding of around 13.3 per

Mr Shannon said there were several options he could have chosen. "I could have dumped my shareholding which would have been disastrous for the share price. I could have been an opposing shareholder at company agms or I could come up with a generous cash offer,

which I have done." He said a number of other institutional shareholders had ex-

pressed support for his bid but that none other than PDFM had decided to accept his bid "at this stage"

The other leading institu-tional shareholders in Country Casuals are Equitable Life (around 7.5 per cent), Schroders (7 per cent), Norwich Unioo (6 per cent), Lazards (6 per cent), and Robert Fleming (5 per cent). Mr Shannon said the Coun-

try Casuals management had not addressed fundamental issues. He disputed a statement from the board suggesting that the company had made substantial progress since 1994.

He said the continuing operations of Country Casuals had made losses before tax of £1.048m for the first half of the current financial year, an increase of 20 per cent over the

# top men step down

Anglian Group, the troubled double glazing firm, yesterday amounced that its chief executive, Ron Swift, and non-executive chairman, Sir Colin Barker, are to retire. Their departure from the housing prod-ucts company follows a collapse in the value of its shares after a profits warning last month.

Sir Colin, 68, who retires in January after four years as chairman, will be replaced by David Perry, chairman at John Waddington. Mr Swift, 55, will leave, after 20 years at the firm, when a successor is found.

Share prices, which had risen slightly after a 20 per cent drop 10 days ago to 113p, remained unchanged yesterday at 122p. Last month, Anglian Group warned that trading profits in the half-year to the end of September were expected to be down 20 per cent and dividend levels would reflect this fall.

In the past two years the company has been hit by a combination of warm weather, heavy competitioo and the slump in the housing market.

Sir Colin said last month that, while sales in the last six mooths were comparable to last year's levels, ao unfavourable change in their mix, from commercial to retail, was bound to hit results. His commeots were followed by 90 sackings at BKL Extrusions. the aluminium business bought for £2.5m last spring.

Anglian shares were floated three years ago at 210p. They subsequently traded as high as 350p as Anglian recorded yearly profits of £24.7m in the 12 months to April 1994, befure falling to £21.1m this April.

#### Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY

The embittered engineer who shopped Lucas Indus tries to the Pentagoo over the falsification of test records has been well rewarded for his treachery. The lowly ex-employee will collect \$19.1m from his agreement with US defence

steady stream of corporate supergrasses, the Pentagon has been generous to a fault. The payoff amounts to 22 per cent of the \$88m that Lucas agreed to hand over tast week to settle the dis-

pute Even allowing for infla-tion this is a considerable advance oo 30 pieces of silver. The Pentagon was unamused to learn that gearboxes for its Hornet fighters had slipped through rigourous testing procedures and pur-sued the matter with a

vengeance. The malcontent, at the Western Geared Systems subsidary, was promptly signed up and Lucas was banned from bidding for future defence contracts. It has already paid \$18.5m to end a criminal action. The settlement will stick in the craw of



USAF Homet: the aircraft at the centre of the Lucas row

George Simpson, the ex-Rover man who inherited the sorry mess But he felt it unwise to leave the matter to an American jury. A safe play given the trial of his namesake.

Will Arthur Anderson bid

for Touche Ross? The possibility is now being openly debated on the abacus cocktail circuit with senior partners of the rival "Big Six" accoun-tancy firms licking their lips over the inevitable and lucrative fallout. Andersen lost out in the last

bout of mega mergers. It has since swallowed the secondtier practice of Binder Hamlyn, but this morsel was not sufficient to satisfy its hunger for new audit clients. Touche, on the other hand,

has seen its fee income growth suffer and is now well adrift of its peers. It is also isolated on the issue of limited liability for auditors, preferring the moral high ground of unlimited liability.

"We oever see Touche's name on the list when we are

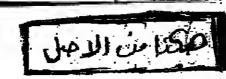
The £15bn merger between Lloyds Bank and the TSB is being greeted with dismay by friends of Graham Wallace, the TSB mouthpiece who always likes to say yes. A Canadian, who apparently pitched up in London with less than two pennies to rub together, his idea of corporate hospitality has been to invite guests to Eric Clapton concerts. Mr Wallace's style is said to owe much to his youger days when he belonged to a San Fransisco rock hand not disimilar to the Grateful Dead. However, there is concern that his refreshing approach may not be fully appreciated by that ingubrious bunch at Lloyds where the chess culture left behind by former chairman Sir Jeremy Morse hangs heavy.

said one senior accountant. "Unless they happen to be the incumbent firm." This sounds reminiscent of the dying days of Arthur Young.

David Gemmill, deputy chief executive of West Merchant Bank, whose forthcoming holiday in his native Zimbabwe had been looking any thing but inviting. The swimming pool at his home, 29 Orange Grove Drive, Harare (a prestigious address) has been accidentaly demolished thanks to an administrative cock up. The trail of destruction began with an order for a swimming pool refurbish-

ment from 49 Orange Grove. One wrong number later and the pool squad arrived at Mr Gemmitl's home, an old colonial property built in 1906 by the pioneers. Out went the water (during the worst drought in living mentory) and in went the hammers and chiscle

"I got a fax from a friend to say that my pool looked like, ao 1RA bomb had hit it." said the banker."To be fair, it did look like it needed some attention." The contractor has agreed on a modest refurbishment in compensation - doubtless grateful that the property wasn't owned by Tiny Rowland. There really would have been hell tu pay.



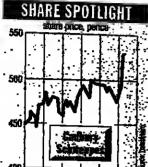
# market report/shares

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DATA BANK FT-SE 100 3,510.3 -16.2 FT-SE 250 3,953.1 -25.9 FT-SE 350

<u>1,754.5 -8.9</u> SEAQ VOLUME 744.9m shares. 33,483 bargains

Gilts Index -0.17



Fizz over Cadbury rumours masks retreat of bulls Buy orders for Cadbury Schweppes shares flooded into dealing rooms in early trading

on the back of strong speculation that Unilever, the giant Anglo-Dutch consumer products group, was preparing the ground for a takeover of the chocolate and soft drinks

Cadbury shares spurted 30p to a year's high of 527p. Neither Unilever, down 4p to £12.52, nor Cadbury would comment on the rumours. More than 8 million Cadbury shares were traded.

Some analysts were deeply ceptical about the possibility of a hid from Unilever, mainly because more than 70 per cent of Cadbury's activities are now in soft drinks - a business that does not readily fit with Unilever's expertise in detergents, ice cream, margarine, and personal care products. However, the analysts did not rule out a hid and said a

predator would have to pay up-wards of 770p a share, which would value Cadbury at more than £7.5bn. With or without

without the rumour about Cadbury and the announce-ment that Lloyds Bank was holding merger talks with TSB. Political and economic un-



MARKET REPORT

JOHN SHEPHERD £4.5bn and £5bn.

ripe for a correction. Most of the undertow that pulled share prices down yesterday stemmed from the UK producer price data, showing a much higher than expected increase in raw material costs. The figures rekindled worries about inflation, and pushed

ahead in recent months, is

est rates further into the future. London shares were also pulled under by the retreating tide on Wall Street. The Dow Jones index has struggled in recent weeks, and again fell sharply in early dealings yes-terday. Within two hours of opening, the Dow had lost 50

hopes of another cut in inter-

A clearer indication of the market's mood in London was amply reflected in the FT-SE 250 index which, after its recent run to an all-time high of 3,991.3, retreated 25.9 points

The picture, some traders said, looks even more gloomy given the strong likelihood that billions of pounds of takeover bids will be rolled out in the next couple of months.

This week alone could see

to 3,953.1. Similarly, the di-

minishing hopes of a cut in in-terest rates was seen in the gilts index, which fell from 93.11 to

several billion pounds' worth, with Lloyds Bank, ahead 19p to 726p, and TSB, up 79p to 353p, believed to be on the verge of finalising their merger terms. The deal is expected to value TSB at between

There was also strong spec ulation towards the close of dealings that North West Water, steady at 601p, would to-day increase its £1.8bn offer for Norweb, 10p firmer at £10.93. Some dealers believe North West may significantly increase its offer to around £11 a share in an attempt to kill the rival bid for Norweb from Texas Energy Partners.

Electricity shares were softer amid fears of a Monopolies and Mergers Com-mission inquiry into the takeover moves by the two power generators for Recs. Powergen, off 9.5p to 535.5p, is bidding for Middle Floridist and in the state of the state o Midlands Electricity, up 1p to 968p, while National Power, down 7.5p to 476.5p, has Southern Electricity, un-

All was not gloom and doom yesterday, however. Grand Metropolitan, which tracked the market for most of the session, turned round towards the close and finished 1p up on 431p.

The turnsround came amid a rumour the international food and drinks group would bring forward its announcement about a successor to Lord Sheppard of Didgemere, who is due to retire as chair-Bull, chief executive, is widely tipped. John McGrath, head of the IDV drinks subsidiary.

is emerging as the favourite to become chief executive. Other gainers included Celltech, ahead 5p to a all-time high of 462p, after announcing a co-operative research deal on a anti-cancer drug with Zeneca, up 14p to £11.77. Bluebird Toys rose 8p to 260p on press reports of a deal to make miniachanged at 960p, in its sights. ture toys for Disney.

results from Lloyds Chemists. The shares fell 5p to 242p and more than

200,000 were traded in the tightly held and thinly traded stock. Analysts at Kleinwort Benson were yesterday said to have turned negative on the shares in the company, despite the on-going speculation that Tesco may make a bid. The consensus of opinion is that profits will be flat at

TAKING STOCK

Dalepak, the frozen food group, was forced to an-nounce that it was in bid talks after its shares climbed 28p to 138p. Some dealers believe the suitor to be Campbell Soups; others sng-gest that Howard Sims, who joined the board as a non-executive a year ago, would reverse his Cavaghan & Gray business into Dalepak.



**BUILDING/CONSTRUCTION** 

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a hid for Cadbury, the record books for takeovers in any one year will undoubtedly be re-written by Christmas. "There are lots of deals in the pipeline," said one trader yes-The bid activity, real or speculative, masked the underlying tone of the market. Yesterday's 16.2 point fall in the FT-SE 100 index to 3,510.6 would have been much greater

certainty, worries about interest rates and turbulence on the foreign exchange markets are sending the bulls running for

the market, which has stormed

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SHARE PRICE DATA

Prices are is sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's dividend, grossed up by 20 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The price/carnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding exceptional items. Other details: xr Ex rights x Ex-dividend a Unlisted Se PP Partly Paid pm Nil Paid Shares. THE INDEPENDENT INDEX

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MARKET LEADERS: TOP 20 VOLUMES

Stock	Vol*008	Stack V	7000	Stock	Val'040	Stock	Vel'm
15B	42,000	Cadbury Schwepper	8,300	Tesco	6,500	MFI	6,00
8-mah Steel	21,000	British Gas	8,200	Lucus	8,400	Cable & Wire	6,00
Lloyde Bank	14,000	BTR	7,900	ABDA Group	6,300	Flyl Bit Scotland	5.90
Heneon	12,000	BP	6,700	<b>छा</b>	6,200	Bank of Scotland	5,20
Seas	8,800	Abbey National	6,600	General Elect.	8,100	Grand Het.	4,61
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611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | 611 | MONEY MARKET RATES 2 Tour 60m 60m 60m 5 % indition of a Discharge Control of a Discharg 202.6 700.9 111.7 114.4 65.17 223.6 304.6 311.1 56.4.2 103.1 103.1 103.1 103.1 103.1 103.1 103.1 103.1 103.1 103.1 103.1 303.2 8-0.2 118.6 120.4 72.51 112.6 397.9 333.6 112.9 63.52 684.9 185.4 LIFFE FINANCIAL FUTURES 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Alemand Ind	38.6	51.5	50.0	
Alemand Ind	38.6	51.5	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	51.5	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	51.5	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	77.8	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	77.8	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	77.8	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	77.8	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	77.8	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	77.8	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	77.8	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	77.8	50.0	
South C. Ada	50.1	77.8	50.0	
Fording Product Ford Bengal List	78.1	50.1		
Fording Product	78.1	78.1	50.1	50.0
Fording Product	78.1	50.1	50.0	
Fording Product	78.1	50.0	50.0	
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Fording Product	78.1	50.0	50.0	
Fording Product	78.1	50.0	50.0	
Fording Product	78.1	50.0	50.0	
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صكرا من الاجل

sport

Whittle

reverses

decision

to resign

The game's best-kept secret became general knowledge yes-terday. David Whittle, the Eng-

land team manager, resigned a

week before the team's depar-ture for the clite Champions Trophy in Berlin - though he has

At a presentation to Whittle

at his Havant club, Peter Sharpe, chairman of the International

Teams' Committee, spoke of the resignation and how Whittle had

initially agreed to continue only

until after the Berlin event in the

interests of English hockey and

to avoid any disruption of the team's chances. But Sharpe said

that he had refused to accept the

manager's resignation. Whittle said: "We talked it

over and I agreed to continue.

Change is necessary and o is easier to achieve from within rather

than without." His original de-

cision to resign followed differ-

ences with the chief executive of

the Hockey Association partly

connected with reductions in

budgets and over the style of leadership. Sharpe paid tribute to Whittle's contribution and

commitment io lifting the

morale of England's élite play-

ers after he took over following

the Barcelooa Olympics. Sharpe said: "The disparity in

funding has to a large extent

been covered by unstinting com-

mitment of managers and coach-

es at all levels, particularly David Whittle and Chris Pickett (an-

other member of the Havant

club, currectly manager of the

England Uoder-21s) and it is

these efforts which have helped England cling on to their top-six world ranking".

Sharpe pointed out that while England's senior squad budget

for the last financial year had

been cut to £75,000, the Dutch

were working with £325,000. He said that David Whittle had an

important part to play in the crucial debate which he hoped

would follow the affair. Whit-

tle, and the coach David Whittaker, who has supported Whittle's stance, oow have the

challeoge of taking Great

Britain to Barcelona in January

for the Olympic qualifier and,

it is boped, on to the Atlanta

now decided to continue.

**Hockey** BILL COLWILL

RACING: From Co Antrim, via the Curragh, a talented young rider tracks the boot steps of Adrian Maguire

# McCoy quick to show he is the real thing

Seninr riders nicknamed Adrian Maguire "the Golden Child" when he arrived in Britain's weighing rooms. Now, it seems, he has a younger brother. Tony McCoy currently leads the jump jockeys' championship with 48 winners. Yet this time last year the 21-year-old had been in Britain for three weeks and had ridden just one winner.

Even in a sport which can pluck names from obscurity on a whim. McCoy's ascent has been surprisingly swift, but it shows every sign of proving unusually durable too. After five months of his first season without the benefit of a weight alout the benefit of a weight allowance, he is at the top of the modest but satisfied. It was a riders' table - eight wins clear of his nearest pursuer, Martin Pipe's stable jockey, David Bridgwater, and 34 wins ahead

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Yesterday, McCoy was a 5-1 chance with William Hill to add the senior title to the conditional riders' championship he won last year. Only Bridgwater (8-11) and Maguire (15-8) were quoted at shorter odds. Those prices, however, were being cut last night after Norman Williamson, another contender,

broke a leg at Sedgefield. A McCov ride on a recent afternoon at Huntingdon exemplified his talent. A small mare and six months. making her debut over fences,

McCoy gave her space, a chance to measure her fences, and when she took a long look at the open ditch in front of the stands, her rider was balanced and prepared, ready to coax her

By the time they left the back for the final time, she was jumping with fluency and en-thusiasm. McCoy reeled in the leader after the second-last, his mount pulling double, and then quickened away for a comfortable success. The mare's first experience of fences, which could so easily have been traumatic, instead brought reassurance and success.

good day's work. One ride, one win is worth much more than the riding fees from a dozen losers. Zajira is the sort of oovice to run up a sequence, and McCoy has just earned the right to share it.

At his age, he can afford to

### yards, but while I was still claiming I wanted to get into a

Norman Williamsoo hroke his right femur in a fall at Sedgefield yesterday. From his hospital bed in Stockton last night, the Irishman said he could be out of action for between four

He was trampled oo after

some day and, hopefully, sooner rather than later." As with so many Irish riders, his youth is deceptive. McCoy started riding point-to-pointers in County Antrim as a schoolboy, and showed such promise that a four-and-a-half year ap-prenticeship at Jim Bolger's blue-chip Flat stable followed.

rapidly he has found success. "I have absolutely no thoughts

about the championship," he said, "but it's something I want

' be

Eventually, though, the scales told him that his future in the saddle would be over the jumps. "I got an awful lot of experi-ence at Jim Bolger's which has done me a lot of good," McCoy said. "It definitely put a few finishing touches on me before I came over here. I'd already started to ride some winners over hurdles, for all the small

Williamson breaks leg

steeplechaser Joe White crashed out at the penultimate fence in the second race. Pat Eddery was banned for three days at Leicester yesterday for making insufficient ef-fort oo Little Black Dress, who

finished fourth in the 4.30 race.

take a long-term view, but there yard where there might be a job is a rich streak of ambition at the end of it. Then Toby Bald-mixed in with his surprise at how ing made it his business to come and get me, and every-thing that's happened since then, I owe to him."

Balding was one of the first British trainers to appreciate the depth of Adrian Maguire's talent, and McCoy was shrewd enough to realise that might help his own name-recognition. "I knew that Adrian had come out of there, so if I got a good start the publicity would definitely be a big help to me." It was a smart move, but then

McCoy has a useful knack for good publicity. The highlight of last season was not just his success in the conditionals' championship, but also the fact that his 74 winners beat the previ-ous record total for a claimer, which was set by Maguire. Then, his decision to ride throughout the new summer jumping season gave him an in-valuable head-start in the new

As he continues to hold tight to his lead, his self-belief, already strong, can only grow still further. Jump-racing is too capricious a pursuit for firm targets or career-plans, but Tony McCoy knows he is good, and knows what he wants. He says he would like to be the champion sooner rather than later It may be sooner than he would dare to dream.



Photograph: Adam Scott Pace-setter: Tony McCoy holds a clear lead in the title race

HONE CHALAMONT.

# 4.45 WHITSBURY MANOR CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,500 added 2YO filles 6f C) £7,500 added ZYO fillies 6f 1 4421 CHAIANONT (7) (0) (R E Sangsted P Crouple-Hyern 8 13 \_\_\_\_\_\_ ) Reid 1 2 1 POLISHE SYRING (10) (0) (No. Lambage R Charlon 8 13 \_\_\_\_\_\_ ) D Smith (5) B 3 1 TRAFRICAR LADV (10) (0) (W L Amdage) R Charlon 8 13 \_\_\_\_\_\_ K Darloy 3 4 CHARLON REP (R ) Hodges R Hodge 8 B \_\_\_\_\_\_ P Feeby 3 5 0 LITTLE MALLE (206) (T K Peerbal P Hoyers B B \_\_\_\_\_\_ P Feeby (5) 7 6 150310 SUBFUSK (24) (9) (No. J M Senton) W G M Turre B 9 \_\_\_\_\_ A Dayly (7) 4 7 06 WR DWOOD FLOWERT (12) (G H Sprid R Hannon B B \_\_\_\_\_\_ Deep GYNelli (5) S RETTING: 7-4 Chaisevout, 5-2 Trafalger Lady, 11-4 Polish Spring, 10-1 Wilderood Flower, 12-1, Subfusk, 25-1 Charlon Irm, 69-1, Little Nation 1994: Sylvendria 2 B 13 J Wilkiams 7-1 (F Murphy) 7 no FORM (SUDDE) Polish Springs Looked conertially Smith washing a wenning debut in a 17-

Polleh Spring looked potentially street when making a winning debut in a 1.7runner Newmarket madden over this trip, bearing Onetochhedrich a length, and
she should win more races, However, there was also plenty to like about CHALAMONT's flest win at Redear last week and she is marginally preferred. Peter
Chepple-Hyem's well-bred silly has improved with each run and followed her close
second to Thracien (Nok winner since) at Nottingham with an impressive ninelength beaung of Hulm last week. The value of the form is not easy to gauge,
but there were a couple of well-regarded newcomers in the race and Chalamord looked very much the finished achels in drawing well clear in the fine funlength. She proved she hendles cut in the ground but this is a much better race.
Selections CHALAMONT.

5.15 BLOOMSBURY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,400 added 57 000002 LISSH CROFTER (22) (C) (D) (P Demropsk) P Candel 8 10 0 ... 2 50-0025 PHARAOH'S DANCER (9) (Pharaohs Computers) P Burgoyne B 10 0 . D GBibs (5) 7
162030 MRLESSME (29) (CD) (Borall Assets) 8 Hambury 3 8 13 A Whelen (5) 8
000000 PRIME SLIK (28) (0) (Intro-Ply Rezorg) M Pyen 4 8 11 M Bahrd (5) 1
236404 TRIKER OSBMSTON (121) (9) (John Lufi M Stunness 4 9 8 J F Egna 10
004220 DANCING SIOUX (12) (Lord Matthews) R Guest 3 9 8 J F Egna 10
004224 WALK THE BERT (62) (D) (Country Ligh Morten Meach 5 9 8 W Slettery 20
0-02336 TO THE BERT (62) (MS P W Harris) P Harris 3 9 7 Septiment 5 9 8 Septiment 10 042210 GRAND CHAPEAU (20) (D) (R Whoworth) R Hannon 3 9 3. 

MALIBU MAN, twice a winner on the all-weather at Wo

MALIBUT MAN, twice a winner on the all-weather at Wokerhampton during the summer, is clearly well suited by cut in the ground on turf. He ran nearly well suited by cut in the ground on turf. He ran nearly well as Goodwood last time when second of 25 in Rhythmic Dancer's race and can go one better now. Timiter Commission was only two short heads behind the selection at Goodwood and reopposes on the same terms, but Priemby Brave and Rome in The Family were much further back. Sing With The Band has switter credentals to Malibu Man, naving won twice on the Fibresand at Southwell and gine close in a big field last time, finishing a short-head second of 18 for Royal Dome at Portefract. Demeletally has slipped to a good mark and ran well to be second to Bowler Rose lost time. The going is in his favour, Leigh Grofter, second of 28 to Followings at Levester last month, is another suited by cut underfloot, but has the standier of 10st. To The Roof has yet to run a bad race since qualitying for handcaps and should be therebouts again, while Lloc, Poyle Jezobatie and Pharmon's Democra are others running well anough to be given every consideration.

OOY MORSIN (1,447) T BN 6 B 11

330000 POREST MILL (13) D Adsumnot 3 8 4 0-86 MUSHKA BABUSHKA (59) Bob Jones 3 7 12 ..

WOODMANS LADY J Sheehan 3 8 7 ..... AFFORDABLE DORA J Fanshewe 3 8 4...

- 22 declared -BETTING: 7-2 Elementary, 5-1 Berleisy Bomder, 7-1 Sen Victor, Happy Hostage, 10-1 Peter Monany, 12-1 Rismeller, 16-1 others

4.00 EBF SOAR MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 1m

#### CHEPSTOW

2.15 Snowy Petrel 2.45 Strutting 3.15 Chili Heights 3.45 Yubralee

4.15 Subzero 4.45 Trafalgar Lady 5.15 SING WITH THE BAND

GOING: Good to Soft (Soft patches).
STALLS: Straight course - stands' side; round course - inside rail.
ORAW ADVANTAGE: High up to 1 m.

Oktow ADVARIAGES; ingn up to 1m.

Left-hand, undulating course with a straight mile.

Recroture is on A466, Chepstow rall station (Cardiff - Gloucester line) is
1 mile away, ADMISSION: Club 5.12 (16 to 24-year-olds 56); Tattersalls 58; 1 mile away, ADMISSION: Club 3 Course \$5. CAR PARK: Club \$3.

MELEADING TRAINING WITH PONNERS R Hamana ... 18 winners from 128 ELEADING TRAINERS WITH EURNERS; R Hommon = 18 winners from 123 runners gives a success ratio of 14.8% and a loss to a £1 level stake of £31.73; H Cecil = 11 winners, 35 runners, 31.4%, +£12.44; H Candy = B winners, 44 runners, 20.0%, +£54.12; P Cole = B winners, 77 runners, 11.7%, 47.37.

ILEADING JOCKEYS: J Williams = 17 wins, 132 rides, 12.9%, +£54.22; J Reid = 16 wins, 104 rides, 52.130; T Quinn = 13 wins, 52 rides, 15.9%, -515.54; M Roberts = 12 wins, 41 rides, 29.3%, +£25.41.

BUNNERSED FIRST TIME: Gloriana (2.15); Pacific Overture & Most Becoming 13.45). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Glocker (2.15); Pacific Overtone & Most Becaming (3.45). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAIS: Chalemont (4.45) was at Bedear on

Theretay: LONG-DISTANCE AUNNERS: Birckwood Sun (3.15) has been sent 243 miles by M Unds from Piercebridge, Co Durbam. 2.15 FONTHILL HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,250 added 1m

12 611-00 GRANEY BELL (157) (CD) (H.A. Western') P. Hayward 4.8 3 P. Powery (S) 12 13 61 000 BALLYWARDLY (SG) Y MY Partnership) R. Archard's 8.3 S. Sandara 7 4 5-056-0 EL VOLADON (139) (O) (A.A.) Pencel R. O'Safran 8.8 2 6 Hard 2 15 0342-0 MORSTOCK (139) (Mrs. M. Fartharri) R. Hoogen 5.8 2 S. Drowner (B) 8 16 000680 TRPAE TRE (140) (The Chemptede Synchotel) M. Blanshard 4.7 11 J. Quian 14 17 00000-0 RIBEPPESSIBLE (7) R. Calvon K. Beshap 4.7 11 M. Admost 3 18 363060 EAN DE FLORETTE (220) (Unia Puccil) C. Dwyer 4.7 7 M. N. Kennedy 17 - 18 Galarred -

Kinimum weight: 7st 7b. The handcop weight: Joan de Florette 7st 2b.

Ashirum weight: 7st 7h. The handcop weight: Jean de Florette 7st 2h.
BETTING: 4-1 Scowy Petrel, 6-1 Teppeto, 4-1 dioriena, 7-1 Jegolfon, 4-1 Bellyeshally,
10-1 Koethary, 12-1 Nessum Dore, Blansfock, Unchanted Webers, 14-1 others
1994: Granby Bell 3 7 7 R Sveet 10-1 P Hayweld 18 mm
FORM GUIDE

This ground is softer than any that Servey Petrel has reced on but, with the stable going well, he is worth the benefit of the doubt in that respect. Snowy Petrel could not hold off Meghdoot when trying to make all at Goodwood 11 days ago, when Glorienas might have caught him in snother stole or the oar well. The rain had got into the ground by the time that Gloriena won her maiden at Lingfield, so there is intile doubt about her coping with this surface, and the first-dimension could help give her the edge over Snowy Petrel now, Medicilloffs helf-length second to Edan Heigriss at Folkestone last time was on going similar to today's. The selection had been up against some useful horses beforehend and has had precious little rucking for a four-year-old so, although he carries plenty of weight.

on his handicap debut, he might have the Improvement in him to pull it off. The derk horse is Ballymakelly, yet to race beyond a mile and off the course since July. But Sellymakelly is trained by Reg Akehurst, so it would be no surprise if he were fit enough and Improved over the longer trip. He won on easy ground intelond lest year. Creative Bell is at the same level in the handicap as he was when winning this race a year ago, although he was fit and in form on that occasion, having won at Brighton a couple of weeks earlier. Like Ballymakelly, Nessun Doro is lightly raced and might do bester now there is more emphases on stamina, while Koarthary may have needed his two races at September after a three-month break and his thard to Dutoelly at Sendown in May suggests he has what it takes to win a full handicap. That could also be true of Neestock, eithough he is a winning hundler and might be one to wetch out for over jumps, selection. IAGELION.

2.45 SWETTENHAM CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C)

241D CECTIC FRANCE (75) (8F) (Lord Howard do Western) H Caset 8.12 \_ W Ryam 2 \_ 83005 STRUTTENS (100) 04 W Gerni) R Harmon 8.11 \_ J Rold 3 \_ 2-002 \_ Mess HAVERSHAME (520) (89) Raining C (Joer 8.10 \_ \_\_\_\_ A Western (5) 1 \_ \_\_\_\_ A Western (5) 1.

4 UV 02/BECK (xit) \$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 (\$100 cot staggests she has her share of starting and that could come in handy in these bonditions, it would have been encouraging to be estimating do a little better behand Revere at Goodwood last time but the others are untried on this sort of surface. The selection trialred that have been are untried on this sort of surface. The selection trialred that her, but the form of miss thereshave at this stage. The extra two furfaces could help, but the form of miss thereshaven's standard second to Goodwin has not worked out well. Although out of action since failing to get the run of the race at Goodwood in July, Celtic Rilingto will proheby be fit emough. When Celtic Frings won at Warwick, though, it was the third time she had started olds-on in a maiden, so she has been a bit expensive to follow, and she needs to improve.

Selection: STRUTTING.

3.15 ANNUAL FLAT v JUMP JOCKEYS CHALLENGE HANDICAP (CLASS G) £3,250 added 7f | Column | C

400000 WARNING SHOT (38) Continental Racing Maryin Meade 3 11:

All eyes will be on Declan Murphy on this comeback after his homitic Haydock total 17 months ago and he has drawn an interesting mount in Albersean. Gooff Lewis's colt has not lived up to his two-year-old form yet this sesson, but he must have shown something at home, as he was bacted from 20-1 to 9-2 favouries in a big field at Newmarket last time, when he finished 19th of 30 bothind Samah. He has dropped almost 2st since the start of the sesson and is worth keeping an eye on. Lest year's course-and-distance winner COMEDNIP has been absent since winning a 16-numer handloop at Hamilton in May by two and a half lengths from Sharp Rebuth. That is solid form and there must be every chance that he is fit enough to do himself justoe. It was a relatively weak attracturs' race that Bischwood Stan won by four lengths at Newcastle last time, but he is in form and must have every chance of repeating that success in this company. First Gold won this last yeer with Billy Newnes in the saddle and comes here on a 11b tower mark and with John Reld riding.

Selections COMEONIZE



Secret, Cauciey, 14-1 Cool Tecticien, Off The Ak, 16-1 others 1994: Cape Pigeon 9 9 2 N Cariste 5-1 B. G Cornelly 23 Rm

FORM GUIDE
YURRALEE, a Zizat colt, has proved difficult to settle since joining Martin Pipe YUBRALEE, a Zitzal colt, hes proved difficult to settle since joining Martin Proprieter winting a Sandown claimer for Michael Stoute. But he ran well on his first two starts on the Flist for Pipe, firshing third to Second Colours at Northgram before a fifth place behind Vindaloo at Warwick in June when tried over 10 furnings for the first time. Yubralee has proved acmenting of a flop over hundles, as to does not get the tim, but his form at this distance gives him an obvious chance. Faw of these are likely to match Yubralee at the weights. Causaloy and Dowsong, have a chance compared to hendidages, but the former ran poorly on his only outing this year at Warwick or August, while Dowsong, a Folkestone winner in August, was pulled up at Brighton lest time. Best Kept Secret was well beat on the sel-weighter at Woverhampton last time, but is better judged on his self-reful form, such as when a creditable tribid to Winter Sourt at Newcastle, and he has place prospects. Jeckstack teses a much stiffer task then when a head second to Benjarong at Hamilton – Paels third and well held.

Selections YUBRALEE.

4.15 LESTER PIGGOTT ALL-AGED CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000 added 6f 104 NO MONNEY NUTS (5) (D) (Moriney Roong Cub) J Beny 2 B 4 \_\_\_ J Carroll 2 D ANDSOME BOY (10) (The Select Partnership) C Benwill 2 7 12 \_\_\_ N Admins 4 - 8 declared -

BETTING: 7-4 Coffee in Cream, 5-2 Subzero, 4-1 No Monkey Nuts, 8-1 Co 10-1 Monty, 16-1 Berramak, 33-1 others 1994: Double Blue 5 9 8 Oliver Casey 11-4 (M Johnston) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE.

SUBJECTO was a little disappointing when a well-beaten third to Empty Quarter at Redcar lost time on only his second attempt, at seven furlongs. The Thatshing colt had done much better on his first two starts this season when third to Carrantia at Yarmouth and runner-up to Art Of War at Hamston, both over this and he has an obvious chance in this company. The consistent Coffee N Carranta at Yarmouth and numer-up to Art Of War at Hamston, both over this trip, and he has an obvious chance in this company. The consistent Coffee "N Cream is an obvious threat today, but he was three-quarters of a length behind Subzero at Yarmouth and has no weight put. No Montey Nats gas a signifi-cent weight allowance as a bwo-year-old and should run well. He appears to have enough weight in nurseries at present, so it was a good effort for him to be fourth of 14 to Dashing Slue at York last time. Selection: SUBZERO.

440030 PRINCESS IMURIE (10) (DI (BF) J J O'Noil 69 B \_Dane McNeows 17 015484 FRANS LAD (55) J Berry 8 9 8 \_\_\_\_\_\_ & Carter 6 506405 ASKOREN (18) (CD) A Harmon 8 9 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Part Eddam 40

#### Games. **Sheffield** usurped by Devils

ice hockey STEVE PINDER

Sheffield Steelers await the result of a goals countback among all the European Cup competitions which took place over the weekend to see if their two wins and one defeat in the Netherlands are enough to take them through to the next round.

Meanwhile, Cardiff Devils took the opportunity to head the embryonic Premier Division with wins against Slough Jets and Milton Keynes Kings. 10-2 and 13-1 respectively.

The surprise was the defeat of Milton Keynes, who had held Steelers to a draw the previous week and have given the Devils a run for their money in the past. The Kings held Cardiff to just 10 in the first period but then fell apart. Steve Mnria leading the way with five goals to add to his opener. At the bottom of the table

with the Kings and the Jets are Fife Flyers, who had an excellent Bensoo and Hedges Cup but a miserable league opening. It was no surprise that they lost 9-5 to Durham Wasps, who are on a rnll at the moment, but against Humberside Hawks, they led 5-2 at the end of the first period. However, they might as well have got nn the homebound coach after that. Hawks' line of Todd Bidner, Derek Laxdal and Graham Garden took control, totalling eight of the evectual 13 goals in Results, Sporting Digest, page 27

#### TODAY'S NUMBER

460

The number of tournaments that the golfer Brad Bryant played in on the US PGA circuit before securing his first victory. The 40-year-old Tex-an, nicknamed Dr Dirt, tasted triumph after 18 seasons, in which he finished second seven times, by winning the Walt Disney Classic at Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

#### RACING RESULTS

E4.00; £1.90, £5.70, £2.50, DP. £29.90, CSF; £57.79. Thu: £97.20.

2.30: 1. Furrishter (Paul Eddery) 9-2; Diernissed 7-2; 3, Do Not Disturb 6-4 to: 9 ram. sht-bd, & (G Lewis), Tota: £4.90; £1.20, £1.80, £1.30. DF: £10.30. CSP: £20.00.

11.20, 11.80, £1.30, DF: £10.30, CSF: £20.92, Inc. £5.70, A.00: 1 SLAPY DAM: (P Fessey) 8-1; 2. Bosschamp Indo 14-1; 3. Monarch 13.8 for £18 csf. 12, Start I Macket, Note: £10.00, £1.40, £2 60, £1.40, £3.30, DF: £103.10, CSF: £124.11 Increst: £260.07, 4.30: 1. OLEANA (K Datey) 9-2; 2. Incoducing 5-4 Lar. 3, Peppers 33-1, 18 ran. 2, 5, (P Cole), Note: £7.90; £1.80, £1.30, £1.450, DF: £12.70, CSF: £10.72, Troc. £342.30.

114.50. DF 12770.
15.00: 1. NESHT WIRK (Martin Dwyer)
5.00: 1. NESHT WIRK (Martin Dwyer)
8-1; 2. Godinersham Park 11-4 fan; 3. Prudent Princess 5-1. 19 ran. 4, 2, (D Nichols). Tota: £8.30; £2.20, £1.60, £2.00.
DF: £1; 50. CSF: £30.45. Too; £27.00. NFL

Adminor.

8.30: 1. FAIRLIGHT DOWN R. Detroit 7-7: 2. Academy of Dance 12: 1; 3. Tandik 7-1: 2. Academy of Dance 12: 1; 3. Tandik 7-1: 4. Detroit 13: 10: 18 rain. 2½; 5h-hd. P Cole). Total 14: 20; 12: 10; 15: 30, 11: 40. DF: 15: 0.50. CSF: 15: 0.48 Total 13: 30. not not won (£20,991.33 to Lexcecter

RACELINE 0891-168-168

CHEPSTOW 101 201 301 LEICESTER 102 202 302 NAVAN 120 220 320

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Trafalgar Lady (Chepstow 4.45) NB: Polly Peculiar (Leicester 3.00)

3.45: 1. IGNONO (M. A. Fitzgerald) 4-1; 2. Master Of The Rock 9-4; 3. Germinosis 2-1 fax, 6 ran. 3, hd. (K. Hogg), Tota: £4.10; £2.80, £1.20. DF: £3.80, CSF: £13.08. 22.90, £1.20. DF: £3.80. CSF: £3.30. 4.15: 1. QAMEEY (6: Storey) 5-4 fler; 2. Plucky Purrier 4-1; 2. Moon Castle 20-1.7 ram. & 6. Charles Smith). Tota: £2.40; £3.10, £1.90. DF: £3.40, CSP: £7.03. Tifo: £42.50. NRs: Joestone, Killmor Led & The

Tolstor. 4.45: 1. PATS have STREL (M A Fizgerid) 13.9; 3. Rupples 8-11 for, 3. Aportise Red 6-1. 3 mm. 24:, 20. (R Champion). Total 22.30. DF: £1.50. CSF: £3.09. NRS: Beldine 2.30. Nr. 348 GYMCRAK (M Dayer) 10-1; 5.15: 1. SHR GYMCRAK (M Dayer) 10-1; 2. Dutes of Perth 10-11 fay; 3, 84-Free 6-4, 10 ran. 4; 14; (B Notines) Total 59.10; 52.70. £1.00, £1.40. DF. £10.10. CSF. £20.66. Nr.: £4.20. NR. Broad Dutlook.

THE INDEPENDENT Horse Racing Results 9839 - 111 171 Commentary 0839,- 131 175

# JEIOSTER,

1.30 Ironheart (nb) 2.00 Masehaab 2.30 Blushing Grenadler 3.00 Polly Peculiar 3.30 Berkeley Bounder 4.00 Jlyush 4.30 Domak Amaam 5.00 Nagnagnag GOING: Good STALLS: Inside, IIRAW ADVANTAGE: None,

GOING: Good. STALLE: Inside. Have ADVANTAGES NOTE.

Bight-hand, inchaining course, with a straight rolle.

Rececourse is 2 miles south-east of city off AS. Leicester reliway station (London, S. Pencras-Sheffield line) over 2 miles away. ADMISSION:
Chip 513; Taxtersalle 85; Silver Ring 54. (accompanied under-15s free).
CAR PARK: Free. Silver Ring Gar Park - 510 admits four occupants. HINERED FIRST TIME: Below The Red Line (1.30); 2.30 Facs (2.30);

3.20 Perest Mill (3.30). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Rivel Bid (3.00) won at Warwick on Tuesday.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNEES: Princess Maxime (2.30) has been sent 193
miles by J J O'Neill from Skelton Wood End, Cumbris. 1.30 EBF REFERENCE POINT MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV I) £5,000 added 2YO 7f 24 ASHJAR (USA) (20) H Trompon Jones 8 11
BALLADUR (USA) H Cool 8 11
BELOW THE RED LINE Mrs N Macantey 8 11..... ....S O Williams 8 T Mos 13

N Hills 14

S Whitworth 3

L Dettori 6 Pool Eddery 1
Dean McKeown 9
G Duffeld 5

SO INMARE (29) R HARRON B 11

50 INMARE (29) R HARRON B 11

50 INMARE (38) G HORR B 11

100 WART OF GLASS (48) O MORTS B 11

100 WART OF GLASS (48) O MORTS B 11

103 WARTER BOMANCE (22) I DURÍO B 11

103 WARTER ROMANCE (23) E DURÍO B 11

104 WARTER ROMANCE (13) E DURÍO B 11 PETTING: 9-2 Ballatte, 5-1 Asiple, Irochest, 6-1 HE, 8-1 Callaico, 10-1 Montecristo, 12-1 others 2.00 WYMESWOLD CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,500 added 2YO 7f

31 MASEMAAS (27) (D) J Dunko 9 2 00 MaseMalande Lad (38) M Chapman B 10. BALOUSTAR (MBA) 5 Woods 8 5 633243 MAGIC LAVE (15) E Alston B 5 ... WHISSENDINE SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS G) 2.30 WHISSENDINE SEL 

- 20 declared -ECTING: 5-1 Mary's Case, 6-1 Arbitra, Southern Memories, 7-1 Frans Lad, 5-1 Love Lagand, Dowdensy, 9-1 Cape Colony, 10-1 Blow Dry, 12-1 offices 3.00 STEWARDS HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,400 added 1m 2f \_\_\_ **... A Client**k G PADDOCK CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) 2.3,550 30060 1m 37 1.83yds
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0000-00 JOYRIDER (1281) Mes M Malgan 4 99
020600 STRAW THATCH (17) R Bactiman B B 6
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0 SOWN PLACE (48) J L Honts 4 8 3
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2000 K PPRINDS 3 B 1 ...M Stoberts 20 300401. SCENEC DANCER (28) (C) (D) A HES 7 9 0 

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## I certainly hope that new rules about professionalism do not prevent good books of this kind from being written

confronted by a problem which few, if any, will solve satisfactorily: whether to look forward to the World Cup in 1999, to live in the present and select on merit alone, or 10 mix the two approaches. Most countries will opt for the last - the compromise - solutioo. New Zealand show signs of adopting the first; though their emulation of the old French policy of mass executioo may owe more to their defeat in this year's final than to looking forward iowards 1999.

England, however, propose to choose on merit. Anyway, that is what Jack Rowell told Brian Moore and that is why Moore has put off tional rugby. The story is told in

Selectors throughout the world are Moore and Stephen Jones's book will miss the money that will he Brian Moore: The Autobiography (Partridge Press, £16.99).

It is published at a most apposite time. Not only has everything that Moore prophesied and worked for more or less come about - though not perhaps in the way he wanted - it has happened when he, and others like him, are growing too old to

In the receot England team there are Moore himself, Roh Andrew, Dewi Morris, Dean Richards, Rory Underwood and, the most public fig-ure of all, Will Carling. Morris has already retired; while Andrew is to become a player-manager with Newcastle. The rest will almost certainly not be playing in the next World Cup. Even more unfairly, they

forthcoming in the next few years. Certainly Andrew has secured lu-

crative employment in his native north-east. Carling's business contimes, though whether his recent es-capades make it a better or worse commercial proposition is not for me to say. The point is, however, that the players who did more than any others to bring about professionalism in the northern hemisphere - the senior members of the England squad - do not look likely to make as much as they could have done, because their

careers are drawing to a close. If Moore, an intelligent man, realises this, he shows no sign of bitterness. It is not a bitter book. What it is, if I may make the distinction, is a resentful book. In particular, Moore



resented - still resents - his exclusion from what he and Jones perhaps infelicitously refer to as the "inner circle" of Carling and Geoff Cooke. He tells us that he never came to know either, though he does not blame them for that. Indeed, he pays

that though the England players deserve the credit for the team's success in recent years, this would oot have come about without Cooke. Others of whom Moore writes

generously are Ian McGeechan; Rowell, from what he has seen of him; and also his old Nottingham friend, Alan Davies, who was, he rightly thinks, unfairly dismissed by Wales before the last World Cup.

Altogether he makes several valuable points about touring, though they are not set out in any very clear or systematic way. He believes that coaches should coach and managers manage, and that Cook's principal failing was that he would put his spoke into the coaching machinery. Clive Rowlands, on the 1989 Lions tour of

Though Moore describes Rowlands as "voluble" - as, indeed, he is, few more so - he considers that he did a good job. In fact, he and lenan Evans are the only two Weishmen (three if you count Davies too) of whom he has a good word to say. His general view seems to be that as England have long suffered verbal and worse abuse from the Celtic

nations and the French, so they are

now in justice entitled to a bil of their

Thus the Irish are patronised as kick-and-rushers, their victories over England in 1993 and 1994 rather glossed over, though Moore has a good whinge about Simon Geoghegan's try on the latter occasion. The Welsh are largely ignored.

generous tribute to Cooke, saying Australia, did not make this mistake. Though he is loud in his praises of Kingsholm, he does not mention SI Helen's or Stradey Park at all. The French are tricky customers, prone to dirty play. But Moore reserves his strongest indignation for the Scots, particularly for John Jeffrey, both as a perpetually offside player and as

a nationalistic commentator.

All in all it is a most stimulating performance. I certainly hope that new rules about professionalism do not prevent good books of this kind from being written. Still, I could have done with fewer stories about being sick on various occasions, and with a drastic reduction in assertions of the author's independence, aggres-sion, competitiveness and refusal to stand any nonsense from anyone. We know, Brian, we know.

# Boban the inspiration for Croatia

Conflict in the former Yugoslavia forced their captain into exile but now he stands on the brink of leading them to Euro '96. Trevor Haylett reports from Split

pacity crowd directed towards a group of outstanding footballers who have been their hope and inspiratioo through five years of war was tangible. It got to no one more than Zvonimir Boban, the Croatian captain, who, legend goes, had a part in the sequence of events that led to the conflict in the former Yugoslavia.

Were he oot an inspirational leader of his successful team Boban, the illustrious Milan midfielder, would still be an emhlem for oational pride and courage among the people who have endured the bloody horrors in the Balkans for too

On a celebratory Sunday night in Split, he was the most impressive of the Croatian side whose 1-1 draw with Italy moved them a vital step oearer the European Championship

crop of emerging talent consisteotly reared io a Republic then moving tragically towards its catastrophic hreak-up. Oo this particular day Boban was playing for Dynamo Zagreh against Red Star Belgrade, the pride of the Serbs.

Tensions were already high. The game, staged in Croatia and policed by Serbs, featured running battles between supporters and the authorities.

Fans spilled oo to the pitch at the end to escape the worst of it, whereupon the police began beating them up. It so incensed Bobao that in a flash of

temper which would make Eric

The emotion from a ca- Cantona proud, he directed a fly-kick at a uniformed officer. That show of solidarity made him a greater hero among the Croats but a marked man in the eyes of the coemy. The powers in Belgrade wanted him put on trial and he was forced into hiding before Milan rescued him and offered him a lavish lifestyle with the chance to win domes-

tic and European honours.



Today as the warring nations edge towards peace they still talk about Boban's bravery and it is commonly recalled as one finals in England next summer. of the myriad and complex In 1990 he was just one of a events that conspired to produce the armed struggle.

> Stadium that still hears the bullet holes from the opening shots in the conflict, Croatia fought hack for an equaliser to maintain their three-point advantage over an Italian side reduced to 10 men after their goalkeeper, Luca Bucci, was sent off nine minutes into the qualifying tie for handling outside his area.

> The 1994 World Cup finalists had demanded that the game be switched to somewhere safer, such as Vienna. The Croatian cynics said it was a request based oo footballing logic and



Dubravko Pavlicic, of Croatia, and Italy's Alessandro del Piero (left) in pursuit of a shared Euro '96 goal in Split on Sunday

the desire not to lose a second time to Bohan's boys which would have brought the Azurri's own qualifying chances into serious question.

With Demetrio Albertini's 29th minute goal, the Italians suddenly felt at home and it needed Davor Suker's penalty equaliser - making him joint leading scorer among the qualifying nations with 12 - to preserve their three-point lead.

The Croatian goalscorer admitted that he had never known an atmosphere as passionate as thal in Split on Sunday. "It really got to the players," he said. "Our people are so happy be-cause they see an end to the war in sight. That and the historic times for Croatian football, because we will be the first to qualify for the finals of a major tournament, is why they were so

We are all looking forward to coming to England and hopefully to play at Wemhley which is the best stadium in Europe. ing is of a very high standard, It has been so hard for our people and that is why the players give everything in every match."

Suker, Boksic and Boban are the pick of the Croatian collection who grew up together and were all part of the Under-19 Yugoslav team that won the World Youth Championship in Chile in 1989.

the Yugoslav side. Their coach- in France, Italy and Spain and

be offered the chance this week

to cash-in on the footballing tal-

ent in Croatia, the team from

the warring former Yugoslavia

who could go far in next sum-

mer's European Championship

finals, writes Trevor Haylett.

The Spurs manager, Gerry

Francis, who has been scouring

the Contineot for cut-price

a fact recognised by the wealthier clubs elsewhere in Europe who prise them away cheaply and theo sell them on later, when they have established their reputations, for millions.

Tottenham and Aston Villa will signings, and Villa's Brian Lit-be offered the chance this week the have both asked to see a

to take the gamble on them. Our rules insist foreign players must have appeared a certain num-Historically, their country ber of times for their country. It el agent and commercial advishas always formed the rump of means we lose out to those clubs er for the Croatian FA.

Spurs and Villa scouting in Split

video of Croatia's 1-1 draw

Agents working for English

clubs were in Split over the

weekend discussing possible transfers. They say the Croats,

virtual certainties to appear in

the English showpiece, are

physically and temperamental-

with Italy on Sunday night.

English clubs have been slow

delay pushes up the price as Kevin Keegan found last season when quoted £5m for Suker when he looked at the Seville striker to replace Andy Cole.

The mistake English managers make is to liken the Croats to those Yugoslavs who have come to England and generally not been a success," said Miladen Petreska, a London-based trav-

Gary Mabhott, will consider

the merits of two stoppers: Igor

Stimac and Dubravko Pavlicie;

while Villa are anxious to ac-

quire a foreign sweeper for

their "Cootinental" defensive

system and will check out Niko-

armband to a foreigner? It shows what they have to offer." The Croats believe they will emerge from the nightmare stronger and certainly their players, who have each conributed up to £25,000 to support the struggle, are showing ly suited for the Premiership. Francis, seeking a long-term re-placement for the 34-year-old

to the West whereas the Serbs

look to the East. They are phys-

ically and temperamentally

equipped to do well in English

football. Boban in Italy and

Suker in Spain have done well

as personalities aside from their

footballing success. Slaven Bil-

ic captains his German club,

Karisruhe. Can you imagine an

English club giving the skipper's

hem the way. Cosseted away in luxury elsewhere, the atrocities have hit them harder than they will ad-mit to. The young striker, Mario Stanic, this seasoo's leading scorer in Belgium, has lost two friends in Sarajevo, for example, and wonders what is left of his bome in that accursed city.

#### **Barrow** out at Wigan

NICK DUXBURY

Graham Barrow was yesterday dismissed as the manager of Wigan Athletic following the Third Division club's 6home defcat by Mansfield

The 41-year-old Barrow, who played 200 games for Wigan during a previous spell at Springfield Park, had his contract terminated because the board "did not feel the club was going in the right di-

rection on the playing side". Barrow, who rejoined Wigan in September last year when he replaced Kenny Swain as manager, said: "I do not think there is any justification for it. Saturday's result was the only real blemish in 12 months." Alex Cribley. the club's coach, has taken

temporary charge. Bolton last night made an ambitious £1.2m move for Yugoslav midfielder, Dragan Ourcic, last night. The 21-year-old OFK Belgrade striker arrives at struggling Wanderers today and could make his debut against Everton on Saturday if his work permit comes through, Bolton also hope to sign Motherwell's Scottish International defender, Rob McKinnon, for-

merly with Hartlepool. The Everton striker, Daniel Amokachi, has been called upl by Nigeria for next week's Afro-Asian Cup tie in Uzbekistan and will miss the European Cup-Winoers' Cup second round, first leg tie

against Feyenoord. Amokachi and Everton's other injured foreign player. Andrei Kanchelskis, will make their comehacks in tooight's reserve match at home to Blackburn.

The Everton full-back. Mait Jacksoo, has ended speculation about a swap deal involving David Hirst, the Sheffield Wednesday striker. by signing a new two-year con-

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

tember 1981 stunned the nation, drawing companson with the humbling inflicted by the United States at Belo Horizonte in 1950, its effect on the players involved was no less devastating. In Paul Mariner's ecollection, it was "the lowest point "In those days, you did not ex-

pect Norway to play with such pas-sion and skill," the former lpswich and Arsenal centre-forward said. "It was such a shock and disappoint The result placed England's ualification for the World Cup

finals the following year in doubt but, in the event, Mariner's scrambled goal against Hungary at Wembley two months later was enough to book England's passage to Spain. It was the first of five consecutive goalscoring appearances by Mariner in an England shirt. alling the record set by Jimmy

Mariner's post-playing career Initially took him into sports management. Unfulfilled, however, he soon left for America, where he coached professionally in New York



ing to England two years ago.
Today, Mariner is Director of Football at Bolton School, In his home town, and works as a match analyst for BBC local radio. He also coaches strikers for Preston North End and is a consultant for Coerver Coeching, teaching the Dutch methods to which Bobby Robson football is the part of the game which fascinates me most," he said. at Adlington, between Chorley and Bolton. His three sons, aged eight,

introduced him at Ipswich. "Youth Now 42 and divorced, he lives

10 and 12, live in Devon.

and San Francisco before return-

### Mariners' big catch

Baseball

RUPERT CORNWELL

Just a month ago, Seattle voters rejected an increase in the local sales tax to help finance a new baseball stadium, and the Mariners' ownership was threatening to take the team out of town for good. However, this weekend's heroics against the New York Yankees have changed all that, as the Mariners battled into the first American League Championship series in the history of the franchise.

The crumbling old Kingdome has known nothing like it, as the Mariners overturned a 2-0 deficit in New York to clinch the best-of-five divisional series with a three game home sweep, topped by a palpitating 6-5 ex-tra-innings victory on Sunday evening. For a national TV audience, it was a reminder that,

strikes, selfishness and greed notwithstanding, there's life in the grand old game yet.

Seattle's three certified superstars all played a key role: All Star outfielder Keo Griffey Jur smashed a towering home run, a weary left-handed starter Randy Johnson came off the bench to pitch three innings of relief on just 48 hours' rest, while the AL batting champion Edgar Martinez hit the game-winning double that drove in two runs at the bottom of the 11th. . Thus the stage is set for two

most intriguing league championship match-ups. In the AL the Cleveland Indians, fresh from a 3-0 rout of the outclassed Boston Red Sox, tonight kick off their best of seven series with the Mariners in Seattle. Meanwhile two of baseball's thoroughbreds, the Atlanta Braves and the Cincinnati Reds, do battle for the National League Crown.

Logically the Indians, boast-ing the most murderous hitting line-up in the game, should prevail. But Seattle are on a roll and in Johnson, the 6ft 10in tall possessor of a 98 mph fastball, they have the most intimidating nitcher in baseball

In the NI\_ rustice demands a triumph of the Braves, the best team of the last decade not to have won a World Series. How ever, the Reds - lacking big names but with the speed, power and pitching to cause an up-set - are confident of a first ever all-Ohio World Series, between Cincinnati and Cleveland. CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES: AMERICAN LEAGUE Today and tomorrow: Carriand at Sestile. Pri. Sat and Sun\* 13-15 Oct Seat the at Carriand. Tow' and Wed\* 17-18 Oct Carriand at Sestile.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Today and tem Atlanta at Cochmot. Fri, Sat and Su 15 Oct: Circumst at Adanta. Tee\* and 17-18: Adanta at Circumsti WORLD SERIES: Genes 1 & 2: Sq:-Sur 21-22 Oct 4L chemoton or NL chempson. Genes 3, 4& Br. Tue-Thu 24-25 Oct N. et Al. Genes Br & 7' Sat & Sun 28-29 Oct: 4L at M.

# Marino is upstaged

American football MATT TENCH

It was supposed to be Dan Marino's day but, with a sense of frony in which the sporting gods seem to revel, it became Jim Harbaugh's. And so, by the end of a strange afternoon in Miami, the spotlight had shifted from the man statistically comenting his repu-tation as the game's greatest

quarterback to someone who only just qualifies as a journeyman. With his fourth successful pass in Miami's game with Indianapolis, Marino broke the all-time NFL record for completions, his six-yarder to Keith Byars suressing Fran Tarkenton'a mark of 3.686. At that time the match could hardly have been better for Marino, with the Dolphins in control as they strolled to a 24-3 half-

But as well as being a game of

two quarterbacks it became one by miss Sunday's game at New Oroftwo halves, and in the second leans. period Harbaugh took over. He may not have been good enough to quarterback the Chicago Bears - no mean achievement on a team without a decent play-caller in the last decade - but Harbaugh is a feisty character who can be dangerous when he

escape from the pocket. Virtually faultess after the break, he brought the Colts lev-el with three TDs, then won the game oo the first possessioo of overtime. In the process the Colts put an end to the NFL's last remaining 100 per ceot record. and posed some serious questions about the supposed stee-liness of the Miami defense.

finds his range and is allowed to

Just as worrying for Miami fans is Marino's health. He injured his hip and right knee during the game, had keyhole surgery on the knee yesterday and will definite-

The Dolphins' defeat allowed the Florida bragging rights to go to the Jacksonville Jaguars and Tampa Bay Bucanneers. The Jags, who turned a few heads by posting their first victory a week ago, had them swivelling Exorciststyle after they had beaten the Pittsburgh Steelers 20-16. Mark Brunell threw for 189 yards and a TD as the Steelers, the choice of many, including your correspondent, to make this year a Su-per Bowl tumbled to another unlikely loss. The Bucaneers enjoy an unusual view of the NFC Central - from the top - thanks to the 19-16 defeat of Cincinnati. NP. (Horne teams freigh NY Gents 27 Annes)
21 (ch): Chicago 31 Caroline 27; Tamos Bay,
19 Chicanash 16; Detroit 38 Gloveland 20;
Dalas 34 Green Bay 34; Laddomain 20 Ptb.
burgh 16; Mannesota 23 Houston 17; too, Minsam 24 Indonapals 27; too; NY Jobs 10 Buff, to
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37, Did not plays Attonto, New Orleans, St.
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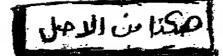






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# sport

# Truce in Australia's Super League dispute

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

The game's loternational Board got through its business yesterday without the expected expulsion of Australia - the only governing body not signed up to Super League. The board ended its meeting in London by lunchtime, without any of the anticipated blood oo the carpets. "The board is staying as n is,"

Tom Bellew, one of Australia's start in any meaningful way in delegates, said. "We are hoping Australia oext season. that the court case in Australia at the moment might resolve something and, rather than break it up now, we should keep the board in place until we see what happens."

The Super League is disputing the loyalty agreements with the ARL signed by clubs that now want to break away. The outcome of that case will decide whether the Super League can

The decision to hold fire on reorganising the game's ioternational administration is thoroughly sensible and reflects the way that the top men in the game in Britain and Australia, Maurice Lindsay and Keo Arthurson, have declared a truce, at least for the duratioo of the World Cup.

The only note of dissension yesterday came from Fiji, who complained that the ARL have set up a competition there in opposition to the original body, which has defected to the Super League.

At a tournament that is not now in any danger of being overshadowed by off-field politicking, England have made six changes for their game against

Fiji at Wigan tomorrow.

The Keighley centre, Nick Pinkney, the stand-off Tony Smith from Castleford, and the

St Helen's scrum half, Bobbie Goulding - as he now insists on being spelled - all come into the backs. Castleford's Dean Sampson and Sheffield's Paul Broadbent will be the props, with Mick Cassidy of Wigan getting his first game in the second row.

Shaum Edwards, England's captain in the win over Australia at Wembley on Sannday, missed training with a stomach bug but is on the beach tomorrow. Paul Harragon, who cracked a cheek-

bone at Wembley, will still lead Australia in tonight's match against South Africa at Gateshead, David Gillespie hopes to be fit in time for the semi-finals, despite a torn hamstring. South Africa will bave three props in their froot row tomorrow, with coach Tony Fisher explaining: "I want plenty of

weight up froot." In tonight's other match, Tonplained about havthem by having to play again 48 hours after their classic 25-24 defeat by New Zealand. The Tongans have to play Papua New Guinea at Hull tonight and their assistant coach, Frank Barrow. believes that, on top of refereeing decisions that went against them in the New Zealand match, the fixtures in the World Cup are geared to the big nations.

#### **Bad blow** for Arms **Park**

**Rugby Union** 

STEVE BALE

Pressure on the Welsh Rugby Union to ahandoo its histori city-centre home at Cardiff Arms Park intensified vesterday when the new Bridgend unitary authority adopted a scheme to site a new stadium outside the town, 20 miles west of Cardiff.

The move follows the rejection by the Millennium Commission of a WRU application for £50m towards the £100m construction of a new Arms Park for the 1999 World Cup. A proposal for a ground at Bridgend was first put forward by planning consultants last February.

The unioo is oow pondering wbether to bring forward a less grandiose scheme for the Arms Park, create a new ground as part of the Cardiff Bay development or move out of the city altogether, an alternative that is looking increasingly attractive.

Bridgeod's scheme would provide a 100,000-seater ground with ancillary facilities, akio to those at Twickenham, that the lack of space makes impossible at the Arms Park. An adjacent railway station and car park for

15,000 cars would be included. "We are proposing to build a stadium for the 21st century, oot refurbish something to keep us in the 20th century," Jeff Jooes, the council leader, said yesterday, adding that the redevelopment of Cardiff Arms Park was "flawed, ill-considered and designed to bankrupt Welsh rugby".

The leading clubs in England and Wales flexed their muscles with yesterday's announcement that member clubs of the Heioeken League's First Divisioo, joined by Wasps and Harle-quins, bad met with Rick Parry, the chief executive of football's Premier League.

The Welsh clubs now intend presenting their "blueprint for change" to the WRU, with the Parry connection adding to the pressure on the unions to accede to their clubs' insistence on increased power and influence. The Courage Championship's First Divisioo grouping had another meeting yesterday, as did the Rugby Football Union's COMMISSION ON professionalism.
PILANSTON CUP Third rounds South: Lewes v Cambriley, Weston-super-Maire v Henley, London Weish v Richmont: Eseter v Recurnt: Tabard v Lydney; Metopolitan Pelice v Receing, North: Leeds v Fylder, Brollington v Winnington Park; Woodester v Liverpool St Hetens; Mocclesheid v Watsail; Covernty v Southodge; Othy v Rugby (Rec to be played 4 November).

o be played 4 November).



# Why you do not need a beret to play the sport of the future

He played petanque or possibly boules, but definitely oot bowls. You have to remember, be would have been playing with cannon-balls," said Roy Bockthorpe, president of the Lincoln Branleys Pétanque Club. The smooth, staid, manicured lowns were a later innovation, a derivatioo from the more rough-hewn original terrain.
The Champion of Champions

petanque contest was being held on Sunday - oot in the town square of Avignon or Aix, but at the back of the Adam and Eve pub in the shadow of the towers of Lincoln cathedral, beneath spreading oaks and ash. "Triples", three-man/woman teams, consisting of a "pointeur" (pointer), a "tireur" (shooter), and a "milieu (middleman), from all over Britain were competing. Only the weather and the vocabulary were Provençal.

and whose belt bespoke a lifetime of croissants and cordoo bleu. But be turned out to be Dudley Lewin, a bead teacher from Warwickshire, representing the East Midlands, and representing the East Mintands, and national executive vice-president. He did confess to being a Francophile, though. "You don't have to be a Francophile to play this game," be said, "but it probably helps."

'Roy Buckthorpe worked for JB Boules, the Coca-Cola or IBM of petrouse and saw executiving through

tanque, and saw everything through boule-shaped glasses. This is the his-tory of the world according to JB. Egypt: the earliest known boules discovered in a sarcophagus, so the Egypoan idea of beaven included playing pétanque. Greece: the Olympic games (discus, shot) an offshoot of boules. Rome: exports the game to Asterix and the Gauls. The Renaissance: boules reach England

Sir Francis Drake did not coolly play a game of bowls before
sailing off to sink the Armada.

There was one man there in a flopphy beret and flowing beard, who ragame of bowls before
sailing off to sink the Armada.

There was one man there in a flopphy beret and flowing beard, who rapanache but passed off peacefully
and without injury, and was woo by is conquering Britain. Andy Martin reports

> and Flanders. The twentieth century: pétanque attains its canonical form wheo a crippled bouliste, instead of running up to throw the boule, devised the fixed feet-together ("ped tanco" or "pieds tan-ques") stance. The modern period begins, in 1920, when Jean Blanc (JB) invents the hollow steel ball of today.

> In Lincoln, the game dates from 1980 when Peter Mann, a French teacher, brought the game back after speoding his university year abroad in the south of France. He and his wife, Liz, dug the 13 pistes at the Adam and Eve themselves, digging up the smooth, manicured lawns and laying down some rough and uneven grit and gravel on a lime-stone base, à la française.

But Lincoln was only following in the wake of most of the rest of the world. The recent world champion-ships in Brussels were oot like an American World Series in baseball,

but lived up to its billing, pulling in representatives from over 70 nations. Just as the British Empire left a trail of cricket balls and stumps in its wake, so too the French Empire left behind (in so far as they have indeed left) a tradition of pétanque in the Far East and Africa. The French never left home without their boules, which came in handy when they ran out of cannonballs. In some Asian countries it is now reckoned to be the oational game. They even play it in the Unit-ed States, Australia and New Zealand.

A Belgian (playing against Algeria) strolled nonchalantly oo to the adjacent piste, where Britain were playing Norway, to hold up play so a fellow Belgian could take his shot undistracted. The Brits saw him off again. "It was so arrogant," Pat Watts, our numero un in triples, recalled. "The Belgian crowd didn't see it that way, though. They were roaring for Norway and baying for our blood. I didn't give them two fingers, I was just signalling I'd shot two

There is also the risk of injury in pétanque, and not just from bloodthirsty Belgians. "The boules are poteotially lethal weapons," said Dave Hancox, from the East Midlands team. "When you're coaching youngsters that can be a problem - to stop them shooting them at one another."

and without injury, and was woo by a trio from the South-East comprising B Wing, N Horrigan, and D Chalkley. No one scored a "fanny" (or zero), so-called owing to a nineteenth-century Lyonnais tradition which required a player who failed to score to kiss the oaked derrière of a remarkably indulgent local woman of that came. In Britain there are 5,000 regis-

tered players. Dudley Lewin believes that we oow have a historic opportunity to spread the gospel of pétanque in this couotry. "My crusade is to get it into schools. John Major wants to pusb sport as part of the national curriculum. Well, pétanque is cheap, you don't need expensive fields to play it on, girls can compete oo an equal footing with boys, and you don't have to be ath-letic to excel at it either. Pétanque In Lincoln, the Champioo of is the sport of the future."

#### In Brussels a full stadium followed

#### Graf booked in at Brighton

.....

Steffi Graf, the Wimbledon champion, heads an impressive field for the Brighton loternational Championsbips from . 17-22 October.

Graf, under investigatioo in Germany over alleged unpaid tax, has won at Brighton six times but faces tough opposition with another four of the world's top 10 players also in the draw. The defending champion,

Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic, Bulgaria's Maggie Malceva, the United States No 1. Lindsay Davenport, and Anke Huber of Germany are heading for the south coast of England, along with Nathalie Tauziat of France and the bighly-rated . South African, Amanda Coetzer. German public prosecutors

to make that quite clear," the

Mannheim chief public prosecutor, Peter Wechsung, said.

183 118 81 134 85 Athletics SÃO PALILO MARATHON Mee's race wir A dos Santos (Baj Ziv 17mm 11sec. Wo race: 1 Nadosyda (Rus) 2:49.33. stud vesterday they did not intend to arrest Graf, "We have no plans to order an arrest warrant, I want

American football

Anders Nielsen, the National champion, has been penalised for withdrawing from the British Grand Stam

tournament at Perth last month after the draw had been made, and loses his funding from the Badminton Associa-tion of England until the end of Janu-ary. The punishment may deny him enough World grand prix points to qual-tifus the Obornic Granes in Mianta

TOUR MATCH (Reflect, lost float day of three): New Zestand 366 for 5 (M ) Genethatch 138, B A Young SC, A C Perons 79) and 251 for 5 dec (M O Crose 101100); Indian Board President's M 289 for 6 dec ff Omet 1A5no, M Attouddin 100, R Gengti SO) and 69 for 1. Netch Graves.

Abraham Olano won the professional road-race title at the World Champi-onships in Colombia, despite riding the last half a mile of the race with a punclast half a mile of the race with a punc-tured back tyre.

World Dichaldfonships (bullium, Col) Macra professional road race (15 lags, 265,5lam); 1.

A Dialo (Sp) 7th Stair Stair 2 M Indusion (Sp) +35ser, 3 M Pentini (Q) some time, Hear's am-abus med moe (10 lags, 130,6 miles); 1.0 keli-son (Nett) +452,38; 2.0 Segnation (0+10mc; 2 P Roctigue; (Ecu) +46; 8 M Stephens 689, +426. (Qualities for event in Olympic Genes; Nethentends, 178); Eusedor, Colombia, Denmark, Britain, Versauché, Sudretiand, Linde, Portugal, France, Moldows, Section, Guardemale, Stockia, Urraine, Balance, Reseale, Culo, Back, Linder Salets, Lince-nia, Canada, Balgiam, Hanginy, Slovenia, Austra,

BUTLAN'S WORLD TEAM CHUMPIONSHIP (Agr) Play-offs (Eng unlose stated); O Priestley and

SPORTING DIGEST SCOTLAND B TEAM (His Iday): Waller (Partici-tyte (Addisor (Partici-

chlo CCPT.

WALES UNDER-21 TEAM (Europeen Under-21 Championship Group Seven v Gernson, Carolif Arms Ferk chie ground, today? Ward (Moss Cout-4), T Expent (Cordif), R Edmants (Bristol Cay), C Edwards (Steamste (Bristol), Hughen (Bury), Sarage (Cove), P Elens (Steamste), Morgan (Bury), Sarage (Harman), Subetilistics to be named.

EA Clife Except multiplication of steam (Barth & Clife Except multiplication steams (Barth)) Hartete (Verent), zones (unerpool), toware (verente). Substitutes to be named.

FA CLIP Foorth qualifying roted draws: Bigth Vousiely: Spentremon's Vuncateign; Matine or Beason v Bractord Park Avenue; testord v Southport: Windford v Barrow or Durham City, Mocclessield v Northwelh Viscera or Eastwood Tower Vision v Morecombe; Staylondigs v Coleyn Beyr, Rumon v Helder, Somit Degenieram and Rechneigh to Purfect v Ruendam and Datmonds; Fring's Lyon v Medicalistic to Solitual Borough; Visional Solitual Borough v Benefram; Chelmandriot is Electricary v Medicalist; Myessury v Sassanego Borough; Numeron Borough v Benefram; Chelmandriot; Starton v Bescheelt; Hinchin v St. Albans; restening v Benefrany Visional; Name v Novembridge; Therefore v Bigtor Regue; Famborough v Novel, Tharme or Newport tolky v Beshiey; Nedmig Visional; Southpulosinal v Canaley, Georgeon and Nortideert v Merhor, Bromiely or Stringbourne v Dorchester; Astrácul v Aldershoe; Romas Green to Conderford v Beth, (Ties to be player 21, October). The 1999 Ameteur championship will be held in Northern Ireland at the Royal County Down Club, Newcastle.
WALT DESPET WORLD CLASSIC (Leim Beens Mata, Rie) Leading Seal-mount scores after raise outsided play (US unless stated): 198 B Dyart 87 63 68. 198 H Sauton 67 68 66; 71 you 68 65 65; 20 AU 68 66 67; 1 Acosts 68 67 69; 8 hey 85 70 68. 202 R Cours 68 67 69; 8 hey 85 70 68. 202 R Cours 68 67 69; 67 H Helmer 68 68 69; 1 Rhiber 68 68 71; 1 G Rymer 68 68 62; C Paulson 62 68 72; 1 Willeamson 69 68; 7 Parise 68 68 71; 1 C Rymer 68 68 69; C Paulson 62 68 72.

Football 7.30 unless stated
B InstENDATIONAL FRIENDLY
Sweden v Sectland (7.0) \_\_\_\_\_\_
(at Spermaller Statium, Garle) EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP SIX CROUP SIX Instant v Labia (of Terribate Valley) (of Terribate Vall

Wycombe v Felhata (7.45)
Cal Val004AL CONFERENCE
Bath City v Woking (7.45)
Reactorfield v Moreotethe (7.45)
Stalybridge v Setephend (7.45)
Stalybridge v Se

(Japan) 9.737. Risspe: 1.Y Chocks (by 9.850; 2.0 Burnes (Rom) 9.762; 2.J Joseby (Bul) 9.750. Women: Wastit J. = 1. Producepyee (Urt), S Americar (Rom) 9.781; 2.6 Gegeen (Rom) 9.705. Unevent form: 1.5 Chorlene (Rus) 9.900; 2= 1. Podicepteyee (Urt), Mo Hullan (Ca) 9.807; 2= 1.

ice hockey risk LEAGUE Premier Division (skiprimy); ngucke 6 Milton Keyner 3; Fde 5 Durham 9; nghem 9 Duhem 6; Sough 2 Cardiff 10, (Sam-i: Cardiff 13 Milton Neynes 1; Humberside 13

Bieston v Manner, Eastwood Town v Northwich Victomic Newport lold v Thome (7-45).

SCBS LEAGUE Presider Divisions Hamilton v Sunton
but, St Abura v Erfeits, Valenton mal Hersham v Duster, 17-45; Yeading v Hamour, Plant Divisions Cotonic City v Benthermiston, Sazanse v Rusley Manor;
Tocong and Mischem v Beston; Dabratja v Abrigdon Town. Third Division: East Thurstot, v Northwood; Homchusch v Wingate and Finchley
UNERDIGED LEAGUE Presider Divisions Byth Spetors v Fradey; Chorley v Benther Bridge; Collegis
Bay v Windston; Leak v Bradon; Matlock v Genrebonugh: Spermymour v Webn. Plant Division: Risewood v Raddle Boough; Genre v Landock v Genre
Linted v Firstey, Challenge Gup First round: Congleson v Windstop.

BEAZER, Höberg LEAGUE Soothers Division: Tor
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unday): Blackburn 7 Peterborough 4; Blacknet 14 SoBius 2; Monorester 18 Blingtran 13; Murtayfeld 4 Chemistod 9; Pastey 3 Caulidos 5; Saindon 6 Dumines 9; Tellod 10 Medwey 4; (Sandayd: Bling-hand 1 Jaildon 13; Backburn 12; Bracknet 5; Med-way 6 Dumines 10; Murtayfeld 1; Guldbook 6; Pestey

Jansher Khan, the World champion, has had a seven-match ban from the British Super League for allegedly not trying in a play-off match last April quashed on appeal. The Patistani player, however, has instead been betted from appearing in the semi-finals and finals next April of the new National Cup connection.

TODAY'S FIXTURES Bootle (7.45); Newcassie Town v Shahmersdale: Prescot v Chriseroe (7.45); Saliord v Radon: Trafton v Denwin. Challenge Cap Sent-round replayed Blackpool Mechanics v Desig He: Creade v Newcor; Hastingden v Stantondale (7.45). North-terit Columning: EAST LEASUR Premiar Dhielans Belger v Denstly; Hastindd Main v Truckies; Osean Town v Gootle. Linktlef Stussel Columning Language Prest Division: Annadel v Pagname Burgess Mai v Mille Oakt Crowborcup v Three Brigges: Language Sparts v Miller Rongmor & Bastinourie Rine. Weestonker Rongmor & Bastinourie Rine. Weestonker Division: EAGLE First Division: Ramague & Fasentham, Steappey v Cartestury; Linchtige Week v Folkesoner Wessbelle v Bedeenham, FEDEROLION BREDNERY NORTHERN LEASUR Flest Division: Chester 4-Street v Stockton; RTM Newcastie v Crook.

Disease: LICENET #5-SUDO F GRAFMAN, ATTOMACESTE V COOK.
ISANSON PASTERN LEAGUE Presenter Division;
Caccino Sushany Tours March v Newford (7.45);
Tipure v Habitenit Woaham v Weston.
HALDS FRESHIT LEINSTER SERVICE CUP Frest
Franck Home Fair Eventon v St Porack's Arriet
Franck Home Fair Eventon v St Porack's Arriet
Franck Home Fair Eventon v St Porack's Arriet
Formany LEAGUE Frest Divisions Eventon v
Bedichum (7.0). Second Division Country v MarsIsans (7.0); Marchester Chyl Velocater (8.45); Ratheham v Garnaby (7.0). Third Division; Checkerfield
v Scarborough (7.0).

Rugby League HALIFAX CENTENARY WORLD CUP

**Rugby Union** 

Other sports

Speedway PREMIER LEAGUE: Bradford v Arena Esse 17.451.

say that again ALMASS THE



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CROATIAN INSPIRATION: 'It has been so hard for our people and that is why the players give everything in every match'

# Venables in mood to lay the ghosts

Football

GLENN MOORE reports from Oslo

England landed in the gather-ing gloom of a Norwegian evening last night with revenge on their minds but, officially at least, off the agenda.

In the last 14 years Norway have twice humiliated England in Oslo. The 1981 defeat, by 2-1, will be forever remembered for the Norwegian TV commentator whose delight led him to crow "Maggie Thatcher. Winston Churchill, Lord Nelson, your boys took one

hell of a beating". However, that defeat, though embarrassing, did not prevent England qualifying for the fol-lowing year's World Cup. The loss in 1993 did. The infamous quote from that year belongs to the manager, Graham Taylor, who accused his team of "running around like headless chick-

Following his spectacular coup in signing the Brazilian, Junin-ho, the Middlesbrough manger, Bryan Robson has urged his fel-

low British managers to follow his lead and look to South

mate ourselves in this country,"

he said. "My credo is that if you

fancy a top player in the world,

why not go out and get him?

jans, with the sort of money

they've wanted, have chosen

Spain and Italy, where there's

a lot of money and the league

was probably classed as better

"But now the Premier League, with all the commercial

money coming in, is catching up

if not overtaking - the Span-

ish and we're getting very close

to Serie.A. We can compete with

them and start bringing more of

Juninho, the 22-year-old mid-

fielder who masterminded Eng-

land's defeat at Wembley last

summer, was always Robson's

prime target. "We were a step

ahead by going out there," he

er had a problem getting Jun-

than the British leagues.

"In the past the top Brazil-

"Sometimes we underesti-

America for new talent.

You never know.

fathomable formation. Les Ferdinand, who made his third England appearance in the '93 match, recalled: "The disappointing thing was we changed our game. We nullified our strengths to accommodate

Having also drawn twice at Wembley in the last three years Norway have thus conceded two goals in the last four meetings with England - after shipping 24 in the previous five. In addition, their club champions, Rosenborg Trondheim, defeated Blackburn Rovers in the Champions' League just a fortnight ago.

But, though Norway were at the last World Cup and England were not, they are not that good. At club level Rosenborg are the only Norwegian team left in Europe - compared to England's five - while the national team, though top of their group, will prohably fail to make the European Champens" in Poland four days earlier, ionships unless they gain a

inho to come to Middles-

tain helped me sell the idea of

coming to England to him -Juninho listens to him a lot."

ment I thought I would defi-

nitely look at Brazilians. When

people talk about the best play-

ers in the world, they're almost

all Brazilian, so I studied them

a lot over the last year," Rob-

son said. "We talk about the

skills they have but they are

looks set to start in place of John

Sheridan, who yesterday pulled

out of the Republic of Ireland

squad to face Latvia tomorrow

in their European Champion-

Similarly, Northern Ireland

have lost the services of the

Southampton midfielder, Jim

Magilton, who withdrew with a

squad left for their tie, in the

same group, with Liechtenstein.

West Ham's Keith Rowland has been called up as a replacement.

striker who has not started in any

ship qualifier in Dublin.

Liverpool's Jason McAteer,

tough, too.

When I went into manage-

Dunga [the Brazilian cap-

brough," Robson said.

Robson owes

debt to Dunga

But, for England, the most galling aspect of Norway's recent success against them is that it has been achieved by playing English-style football at its longball basic. "It is certainly effective, they get good results and we have the scars to prove it, Terry Venables said .

The England coach may have meant physically as well as mentally. There is much to atone for tomorrow, but, said Venables, "looking for revenge is dangerous. You have got to have a clear head and be resolute. They are a tough side. We have got to stand up to that and play our football."

Venables' football is based on short-passing, rather than the long-ball, and he intends to continue with that philosophy. Whether he goes on to do so after next summer's European Championship, and in what role, is still uncertain.

Venables has been touted as a potential appointment as Technical Director, the new post which will oversee development of the English game. There has also been talk of his re-negotiating his contract in the wake of Internazionale's attempt to secure his services. Yesterday he said he had neither been interviewed for the new role, nor discussed his current contract. David Davies, the FA's Director of Public Affairs, stressed that, contrary to reports, a shortlist has not yet been drawn up.

However, it will be soon. Davies said the FA want to make the appointment before the European Championship next June. Venables also wishes to know his next move by then. Yesterday he hinted that his preference would be for remaining in his current job - or taking another managerial position - when he said: "I miss working on the pitch every day, but I am enjoying this job more and more. Whatever happens it is no good my coming out of the Championship with a week to sort out my future."

For now he is looking no farther than tomorrow's intriguing clash of styles. England's main doubts appear to be at centre-Gary Neville's rise has jeopardised Rob Jones' position. Robert Lee and Jamie Redknapp are expected to form the midfield axis with Steve McManaman and Dennis Wise on the flanks. Nick Barmby will operate just behind either Alan Shearer - the likely choice - or Les Ferdinand in attack.

Monday's Solution



Lord of the rings: Yuri Chechi, the world champion from Italy, holds on for his third successive gold medal in apparatus finals during the World Gymnastics Championships in Sabae, Japan, yesterday. Chechi won with a score of 9,850 points Photograph: Enko Sugita/Reuter

#### said. "Once I got across the table, the stumbling block was of Scotland's nine European Champiouship qualifying games, will do so in the Stockholm persuading them to sell. I nev-

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

friendly against Sweden.

John Robertson, the Hearts

ing in to make meal of jam 25 (5-2)

architectural column? (7) Motoring organisation backs one at front of convoy (7) 10 It's said to give rise to contraband (7)

11 Fish in European country one can sell to anybody (9) 28
12 Greek prayer which is for the departed? (5) Composer featuring in cat-

logue we hear (5) Deceitful junior employee?

17 Senior teacher's sour? It's a 3 great advantage (4-5) 19 One wades right into cor- 4 poral punishment (5) 22 Person in charge of frenet- 5

ic activity (5)

Fancifully in the mood for dismissing a lot? (7)
Bald Henry left, inspira-tion being impossible? (7) Balanced lines about the

balance (5)

One US soldier in elabo- 6 rate start (9) Limiting island holidays 7 Double-act performed, con does not give one a clear

run (7) 26 Enthral in Parisian valse with gliding movement Some research assistance needed to produce a frame (7)

House crime bust by ancient Support for board's formulation of letters (7)

A numer has to take English and needs one to explain text (7) 23 There could be nothing like one's watering hole (5)
24 One uses flexible spring (5) first lady (5) Possibly nine plus one made by Gower? (9) One in posture showing

Logical end of Spenser nar-rative could be so? (9)

taining old piece of music (7) Perhaps embarrassed about exorbitant rate for tyre? (7) A1 cricket begs which can set precedents? (4-5) Potential merit in minor damage or injury? (9)

linesman? (7) Wrong names by one? A case of this perhaps? (7)
A female insect is unyielding (7)

> from the wreckage of his world championship challenge. The Englishman, launching a limited edition of print etchings at Harrods yesterday, also traced the line of the problem on the

### Racing and hockey in first drugs test failures

Drugs in sport RICHARD EDMONDSON AND NICK DUXBURY

Racing, hockey and athletics were joined together yesterday in a fashion none of the

them would have wished - by drugs.
The apprentice jockey Sean McCarthy became the first rider in Britain to fail a random drug test, while the German in-

ternational, Oliver Kurtz, joined him as a hockey "first" after his system showed traces of cocaine. Athletics, unlike the other two no stranger to drugs, had the South African javelin thrower Philip Spies falling foul of three banned stimulants. The 22-year-old McCarthy,

will tomorrow discover his punishment after testing positive for cannabinoids and ampheta-

Damon Hill will nurse a hair-

line fracture of the leg through

the closing stages of the For-

mula One season and still en-

deavour to recoup some honour

outside of his knee. "It hurt like

bell in testing last week," he said.

"but nothing like as much as los-

ing the championship."
The injury, which was sus-

tained when he crashed in the

Grand Prix of Europe at the

**Motor racing** 

DERICK ALLSOP

mines. McCarthy, who was born in Liverpool, will appear in front of the Jockey Club's Disciplinary Committee for sentence following a positive sample he returned at Folkestone in August. He is expected to be suspended for a month.

This is the first case of its kind since random testing was introduced to the sport just over a year ago. Some 150 tests have been carried out so far. It was McCarthy's misfortune

that drug-testers turned up at Folkestone on 15 August, one of the few days he has actually ridden in public this year. He was tested after partnering Harry Welsh into third place in the concluding apprentice handicap for the Lambourn trainer Kevin Michael Caulfield, the Sec-

retary of the Jockeys Association said. The message is Africa.

therapist and interrupted the

Williams-Renault driver's test

programme at Imola. He is

adamant, however, that it will

not dilute his determination to

nault's Michael Schumacher by

27 points with three races and a

maximum of 30 points left to con-

test, said: "It's getting easier all

the time and I'm determined to

"Even if it's not possible to win

see out the rest of the season.

the championship now, there's

still a lot to glean. There is a lot

of honour at stake. There are

three races left and I think I can

cised for not owning up to some Nurburgring nine days ago, was of his lapses this season, and he Prix, at Aida, on Sunday week.

Hill has been severely criti-

win all of them. That's my target."

Hill, trailing Benetton-Re-

end his season on a high.

simple, that any dabbling at all will lead to people getting caught. There is no place in racing for any illegal drugs."

The International Hockey

Federation, who have carried out tests since 1968, have banned Kurtz from playing for Germany for two years and his

club until April next year,
He tested positive for benzoylecgonine, a metabolic of cocaine, at the Atlanta Challenge Cup in August. The Federation stressed that the substance was "one of a social nature and should not be considered as a performance enhancing drug."
Spies, 25, tested positive for tephedrine, methylephedrine

and pseudoephedrine at the All African invitation meeting in Johannesburg last month. He has been suspended pending a hearing by Athletics South

ing too anxious to win at times

I made mistakes at Silverstone

Hockenheim and Monza. But

that does not tell the whole sto-

ry and this season has proved to

me I can win the championship.

put me off at all, and certainly hasn't weakened my resolve to

win the championship. No one

likes losing, as I've found out.

If I can end the season with a

winning sequence it will help al-

leviate some of the disappoint-

"It will be a warning signal for

next year. My ambition is still to

win the world championship and

the rest of this season can serve

as a platform for next year." Hill

races next at the Pacific Grand

ment and make a point.

What has happened has not

# Hill to race with leg fracture

Place a letter between the words which, when substituted for the middle letter of each word either side, will create two other words. When all the letters have been found a word can be read downwards. What is the word?

HAVE YOU GOT

WHAT IT

TAKES?

THINK [ ] CHOIR

AMPLE [ ] REVEL

GRAND [ ] DROLL

PIVOT [ ] VAGUE

SPACE [ ] BLESS

EAGER [ ] HOVEL

LOCAL [ ] MANOR

Get the answer right and we will send you a Certificate of Merit.

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